



THE MADISON COURIER

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025 *Serving the Courier area since 1837* NEWSSTAND • \$1.25

NOTE TO READERS

Due to weather issues, some subscribers of The Madison Courier may receive Tuesday's newspaper on Wednesday. The paywall on our website — www.madisoncourier.com — has been temporarily lowered to provide access to those who did not receive a paper or are unable to visit a retailer.

Orion makes appeal in Switzerland Circuit Court

BY BOB DEMAREE

A California solar energy developer has filed suit in Switzerland County against the Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals denial of a proposed 472 megawatt solar project in Saluda Township.

The Jefferson County Board

of Zoning Appeals late last year denied an application by Orion Renewable Energy Group LLC for the proposed Idlewild Solar Project leading to the developer filing a lawsuit in Switzerland Circuit Court on the grounds that the board's decision was "arbitrary and capricious."

"There is a lot of support for this project in the county because of all the benefits it will bring to the community," said Michael Cressner, Orion's vice president of development. "We believe our application met and exceeded the county's requirements for obtaining a Special Exception under

the county's solar ordinance. As the appeal is ongoing, we cannot comment further on any details."

Called the Idlewild Solar Project, the development would encompass 3,324 acres near Paynesville in Saluda Township in which solar panels and related production equipment

would cover approximately 2,048 fenced-in acres inside of that. About 20 property owners had signed to lease their land with the project generating approximately 472 megawatts of power at the site.

SEE ORION/PAGE A7

SNOWED IN

Winter storm hinders travel, causes cancellations

BY BOB DEMAREE

Snow, freezing rain and sleet on Sunday and Monday made for challenging and dangerous road conditions in Jefferson and Switzerland counties in Indiana, and Carroll and Trimble counties in Kentucky and left area highway departments battling to clear roads before the arrival freezing temperatures midweek can lock that moisture in place.

"We're fighting Mother Nature," said Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency Director Matt True, noting that additional snow accumulation, lower temperatures expected to reach into single digits and drifts caused by winds gusting to 30 mph will all hinder snow removal operations over the next few days.

On Sunday, Madison Mayor Bob Courtney declared a State of Emergency for the city and issued a warning restricting travel to emergency personnel only with a few exceptions.

Courtney said early Monday afternoon that while the State of the Emergency remains in effect, that would be reassessed Tuesday as crews continue clearing primary roads and if weather conditions improve. The sun was shining Monday afternoon, which he said "really helps" even though more snow was anticipated later in the day.

True said the same declaration is also in effect for Jefferson County, noting that overnight temperatures are expected to plunge into single digits on Wednesday and Thursday, ensuring that whatever ice and snow survives until then, may not go away this week. The National Weather Service is also forecasting the arrival of another winter storm in the Ohio River Valley on Friday.

Switzerland County EMA Director Tom Moore said Monday morning that county is under a travel warning after 8 inches of snowfall on Sunday was followed with sleet overnight. Trimble and Carroll counties in Kentucky are both under a Level 3 snow emergency, meaning all roadways are restricted to emergency per-



Bob Demaree

With the street partially covered and more snow falling, a winter storm made for hazardous driving conditions and limited traffic on Main Street as night started to fall on downtown Madison at about 5 p.m. Sunday

sonnel, travel for work, provisions, medical supplies or medical treatment, and private snow removal operations.

On Monday, True said he had met with Courtney, the Jefferson County Commissioners, local law enforcement and representatives of the county highway and street departments, and they collectively agreed to remain under the travel warning.

"We're maintaining status quo," True said Monday morning, noting he's not sure when travel restrictions will be lifted.

During the travel warning, residents are directed to refrain from all travel, comply with necessary emergency measures, cooperate with public officials and disaster services in executing emergency operations plans, and obey and comply with lawful directions from properly identified officers.

Courtney urged everyone to prioritize safety. "The safety of our community is our top priority. As this severe weather impacts our area, I urge every-

one to stay home, avoid unnecessary risks, and support one another," he said.

Limiting traffic can help make an already difficult job just a little more safe for the people who do have to be out in the adverse conditions. Road crews have better access to clear roadways with plow trucks and to spread salt and emergency vehicles don't have to compete for roads with other vehicles or worry about stranded vehicles blocking their routes.

The danger can be felt most by the county highway crews that are working to clear roads. True said there have been instances in which ambulances and highway trucks have gone off the road in Jefferson County. As conditions further declined Monday morning, Moore said in Switzerland County there were two highway trucks that had to be pulled out of ditches. Highway trucks had also slid off the roadways in both Trimble and Carroll counties.

SEE SNOWED/PAGE A8



Bob Demaree

A city plow truck makes another pass on Cragmont Street near Johnson Court on Madison's hilltop Sunday afternoon. Highway trucks were out much of the day and night making numerous passes on major streets yet most were still covered with snow and ice on Monday morning.

BLF funds \$192,000 grant for Behavioral Health Navigator

BY BOB DEMAREE

A three-year \$192,000 grant from the Bethany Legacy Foundation will fund a new Jefferson County Behavioral Health Navigator, a resource considered vital in connecting organizations and individuals

in need of substance use disorder and mental health services.

Jefferson County Health Department (JCHD) applied for the grant and will be the home base for the Behavioral Health Navigator once that

person is hired.

The Behavioral Health Navigator is being developed to serve as a crucial link for those seeking mental health and substance use disorder resources in the county. By determining available resources

and connecting local agencies to strengthen communication, this role will ensure that Jefferson County residents in need receive comprehensive care.

"This is kind of a collaborative effort between several

different agencies that felt the need to connect community members with the appropriate mental health resources," said JCHD Administrator Lindsey Wyne.

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David Edwards
Bonnie Hoskins
Kathryn O'Neal

Linda Phillips
Constance Rhoten
John Rowlison
Martin Shuler

Tony Steinhardt

Vehicular homicide suspect to be arraigned

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP
NEW CASTLE, Ky. — A Pendelton man is scheduled to be arraigned Jan. 16 in Henry County Circuit Court on two counts of vehicular homicide and DUI for allegedly causing the deaths of two people last October.



Trustin B. Hasenauer

Trustin B. Hasenauer, 21, allegedly caused the deaths of Austin Doane, 40 and Holly Hawkins, 31, of Port Royal following an Oct. 4 wreck on La Grange Road. He was originally charged with two counts of murder but those charges were reduced when he was indicted late last year by a Henry County grand jury, court documents show.

A citation generated by the Kentucky State Police alleges Hasenauer was more than twice the legal limit for alcohol when his Chevrolet pickup truck crossed the center line and struck a motorcycle around 10:30 p.m. on La Grange Road.

The driver of the motorcycle, Doane, was dead when police arrived. The passenger, Hawkins, was receiving what police described as “life-sav-

ing measures.” She was transported to the University of Louisville Hospital where she was later pronounced dead by the Jefferson County Coroner’s Office.

Multiple witnesses told police they saw Hasenauer flee from the scene on foot, according to the citation.

The owner of the truck Hasenauer was driving arrived, saying Hasenauer had called him and told him he’d been in a wreck and was back at his residence on Fox Run Road.

When police arrived at Hasenauer’s residence, he told them he “thought he hit a deer,” according to the citation. When asked if he had consumed alcohol, Hasenauer allegedly told police he had “one beer.”

After being taken into custody, Hasenauer allegedly told police he left the scene because he was scared and his license was expired. He also allegedly told them he consumed alcoholic beverages at a restaurant in New Castle before the wreck.

As cases surge in some areas, vaccinations lag

BY MIKE STOBBE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The U.S. flu season is underway, with cases surging across much of the country, health officials said recently.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention noted sharp increases in several measures, including lab tests and emergency room visits.

“It’s been increasing at a pretty steady pace now for the past several weeks. So yeah, we are certainly in flu season now,” said the CDC’s Alicia Budd.

Thirteen states reported high or very high levels of flu-like illness last week, about double from the week before. One is Tennessee, where a sickness spike is hitting the Nashville area, said Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious diseases expert at Vanderbilt University.

“Flu has been increasing, but just this last week has exploded,” Schaffner said. He noted that in a local clinic that serves as an indicator of illness trends, as many as a quarter of the patients have flu symptoms.

Louisiana is another early hot spot. “Just this week is really that turning point where people are out because of the flu,” said Dr. Catherine O’Neal, an infectious diseases doctor at the largest private hospital in the state, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center in Baton Rouge. “You hear parents saying, ‘I can’t come to work because of the flu’ and ‘Where can I get a flu test?’ ”

Of course, there are a number of bugs that cause fever, cough, sore throat and other flu-like symptoms.

One is COVID-19. Another is RSV, or respiratory syncytial virus, which is a common cause of cold-like symptoms but can be dangerous for infants and the elderly.

The most recent CDC data show COVID-19 hospitalizations have been declining since summer. COVID-19 activity is moderate nationally, but high in the Midwest, according to CDC wastewater data.

RSV hospitalizations started rising before flu did and now show signs of possibly leveling off, but they remain a little more common than admissions for flu. Overall, RSV activity is low nationally, but high in the South, the wastewater data show.

The CDC called the start of flu season based on several indicators, include lab results for patients in hospitals and doctor’s offices, and the percentage of emergency department visits that had a discharge diagnosis of flu.

No flu strain seems to be dominant, and it’s too early in the season to know how good a match the flu vaccine will be, Budd said.

Last winter’s flu season was considered “moderate” overall, but it was long — 21 weeks — and the CDC estimated there were 28,000 flu-related deaths. It was unusually dangerous for children, with 205 pediatric deaths reported. That was the highest number ever reported for a conventional flu season.

The long season was likely a factor, Budd said. Another factor was a lack of flu vaccinations. Among the children who died who were old enough for flu vaccinations — and for whom their vaccination status was known — 80% were not fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

Vaccination rates for children are

even lower this year. As of Dec. 7, about 41% of adults had received a flu vaccination, similar to the rate at the same point last year. The percentage is the same for kids, but for them that’s a drop from a year ago, when 44% were vaccinated against the flu, according to CDC data.

Vaccination rates are lower still against COVID-19, with about 21% of adults and 11% of children up to date.

Flu experts suggest everyone get vaccinated, especially as people prepare to attend holiday gatherings where respiratory viruses can spread widely.

“All those gatherings that are so heartwarming and fun and joyous are also an opportunity for this virus to spread person to person,” Schaffner said. “It’s not too late to get vaccinated.”

Even so, Louisiana’s health department said in a statement Friday that it was actually backing away from recommending flu and COVID-19 vaccinations. An official wrote that the department’s latest position is that people should talk to their doctors about whether the shots make sense for them.

A department spokeswoman, Emma Herrock, did not respond to follow-up questions about the policy. The state’s surgeon general, Dr. Ralph Abraham, previously expressed concerns about the safety and effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Vaccines save lives and policies that dissuade people from getting protected are irresponsibly dangerous, public health experts and advocates say.

“People are going to die because of this policy,” said Jennifer Herricks, founder of a group called Louisiana Families for Vaccines.

NEWS OF RECORD

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER

LODGINGS

January 2, 2025

Dara Anne Maiden, 29, Madison, to serve 127 days jail, concurrent, on a court-ordered sentencing. No bond.

Nathan Robert Sommer, 39, Hanover, for Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond \$500 cash.

Karrie D. Wiefeling-Lewis, 53, Madison, for Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony; Unlawful Possession or Use of a Legend Drug, a Class A misdemeanor; and on a 15-day hold. Bond \$10,000 cash.

January 3, 2025

April G. Mahoney, 43, Bedford, Kentucky, for Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated and Resisting Law Enforcement, both Class A misdemeanors; and Disorderly Conduct, a Class B misdemeanor. Bond \$1,000 cash.

January 4, 2025

Emily Nicole Brierly, 31,

Vevay, Indiana, for Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony, and on a Jefferson County warrant for failure to appear. Bond a combined \$1,250 cash.

Stephanie Marie Klare, 35, Hanover, for Dealing in Methamphetamine, a Level 2 felony; and Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 3 felony. No bond.

Cameron Scott Tillman Leone, 40, Madison, for Manufacture/Dealing Methamphetamine, a Level 2 felony; and Possession of Methamphetamine, a Level 3 felony. No bond.

Billy Randall McCarty, 31, Madison, on a parole hold warrant. No bond.

Nicholas Allen Monroe, 30, Madison, for Possession of Marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor; Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor; and on a parole hold warrant. No bond.

January 5, 2025

Jordan S. Cain, 33, Marysville, Indiana, for Invasion of Privacy, a Class A misdemeanor. No bond.

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Madison Salvation Army running more than \$130,000 below goal

BY BOB DEMAREE

The Madison Salvation Army’s fundraising totals for this Christmas season are running significantly below the \$220,000 goal, causing concern to Captain Janelle Cleaveland about how that will impact the organization’s community programs in the coming year.

So far there has been \$85,335 raised, which is \$134,665 behind the \$220,000 goal that needs to be achieved by Jan. 31, just three weeks away.

Cleaveland, the leader the Madison Salvation Army since the summer of 2022, said this is her 15th Christmas as a Salvation Army officer, previously serving at three different locations in Iowa. “This is the most I’ve been behind. It’s the hardest it’s been,” she said, always finding a way to meet budget to fund programs. “Knock on wood, I have never had to edit the budget after the Christmas fundraising season.”

Cleaveland said that if the

Madison Salvation Army does not “make within 10% of our goal, we will have to make cuts, whether that’s one less meal provided during the day, less help with rent and utilities, less nights of shelter for the community or less clothing vouchers to the thrift store or less showers and laundry for the homeless. The list goes on and on. We can do the bare minimum if we have to, but I don’t want to

have to go to that because we are a very needed resource in this community, and we want to be able to provide all that we can for this community because our programs are used on a regular basis, and if they’re not available, the effect will be felt.”

Cleaveland said the Salvation Army’s Christmas fundraising begins Oct. 1 and ends Jan. 31. This year’s goal for the kettle campaign was \$42,000 but only \$29,446.14 was raised with those collections ending Dec. 24.

The kettle campaign this



Salvation Army Capt. Janelle Cleaveland

year included the same locations as last year — Hobby Lobby, Kroger and Walmart — with new downtown Madison locations at Nice Shots! Photography and DG Market, along with a couple of weekends at Red Roaster.

But Cleaveland noted that a factor in the kettle collections may have been there were fewer days on the calendar this year between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Also, she said the Salvation Army struggled to have enough volunteer bell ringers. “If there are not bell ringers, we won’t make much,” she said, while citing there were several groups that did including the Madison Cubs baseball team, the Shawe girls soccer team and Shawe girls basketball team.

Cleaveland said the Salvation Army’s fundraising was also helped through collections at a Hanover College men’s and women’s basketball double-header in December, St. Nick’s Beard Bash fundraiser and a Thomas Family Winery fundraiser.

“There were a lot of good things happened and a lot of blessings but we’re just behind. We’re hoping for a miracle,” said Cleaveland, adding there have been a

few large gifts received in the past that haven’t yet been received this year. “I know it’s hard for a lot of people,” noting it could just be a factor in the state of the economy. “We understand that” but it doesn’t lessen the impact. “We also have to have money to serve the community that we serve in.”

Even as the fundraising total currently looks dire, Cleaveland said faith tells her that God will provide. “I am a Christian and I believe in the power of the Lord, that God can do miracles, that God does miracles so I know that he can do miracles, and I am trusting God provides and it all works out.”

Donations can be made to the Salvation Army by going online at SAMadison.org, by mail to 331 East Main St., Madison or in-person at the Salvation Army that’s open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

“I love what I do,” said Cleaveland. “I love the Salvation Army, I love what we do for the community but sometimes it’s really hard working for a non-profit” and relying on donations for funding programs. “This is one of those hard times ... I just want to provide the best for the community.”

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9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

2:30 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issue
Noon Monday for Thursday issue
Noon Thursday for Saturday issue

VOL. 225 • ISSUE NO. 2

BIRTHDAYS

Editor’s Note: Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to zelda@madisoncourier.com or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.

JANUARY 8

Mary Jo McClelland

JANUARY 9

Sharon Ogden

JANUARY 10

Larami King

JANUARY 12

David Brent

JANUARY 14

Dave Taylor

JANUARY 15

Linda Barbeau
Rhonda Sauley
Kenny Surrentt

JANUARY 16

Share Boles
Wayne Engle
Sara Minor
Charlie Wade

WEATHER

Sunrise: 7:58 a.m.

Sunset: 5:37 p.m.

Temperature: High 28, Low 12, Mean 20.0, Deficit 10.2

Precipitation since last published: .70 (snow/ice)

Precipitation, January 2025: .73

Precipitation, 2025: .073

Barometer: 29.80, Rising

River Level at Clifty Creek: 425.6, Rising

Forecast: Wednesday: Partly sunny High 22/Low 6; Thursday: Sunny High 24/Low 7; Friday: Snow showers High 25/Low 21.

LOTTERY

INDIANA

Hoosier Lotto: 1-13-16-27-29-38 (1/4). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$36 million. Next Drawing (1/8).
Cash Five: 1-3-11-21-32 (1/5)
Cash 4 Life: 2-6-17-46-57 CB: 2 (1/5)

KENTUCKY

Cash Ball: 10-11-23-27 CB 2 (1/5)
Lucky For Life: 6-27-31-33-47 LB: 13 (1/5)

POWERBALL

26-32-43-54-56 PB: 24, PP 2 (1/4). Next Estimated Jackpot: \$220 million. Next Drawing (1/6).
POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY: 12-25-63-65-66 PB: 14 (1/4). Next Estimated Jackpot: Up to \$10 million. Next Drawing (1/6)

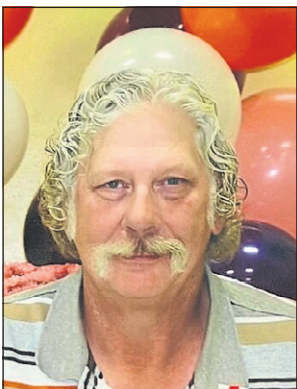
MEGAMILLIONS

20-42-46-59-69 MB: 19, MP 4 (1/3). Next Jackpot: \$62 million. Next Drawing (1/7)

OBITUARIES

Donald Ray Campbell

Donald Ray Campbell, age 72, of Deputy, IN, entered this life on May 18, 1952, and was the only son of Curtis Taylor and Myrtle Francis Dixon Campbell, in the Scottsburg, Scott County, Hospital on the Square. His Family moved to Deputy, Jefferson County when he was five years old. He attended Deputy Grade School and Deputy High School until 1968, when they transferred to Madison Schools, where he graduated in 1970. He was inducted into the U.S. Army and transferred to the National Guard in Dec. 1971, for 6 years and Honorable Discharged at the expiration term of enlistment in Dec, 1976, with the rank of Sergeant. He was awarded The Indiana Commendation Medal for Exceptional Meritorious Service. He was united in marriage to Billie Frances Combs on Nov. 22, 1978, in Scott County, IN. This union was blessed with one son Joshua Curtis Campbell. The marriage ended in 1983. He is a member of the Bethany Baptist Church near Deputy, IN, from a early age and later attended Broadway Church of God in Austin, IN. He is a Member of United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners



of America Union # 631 and he retired from Arvin Industries in North Vernon, IN. Donald left these earthly bonds for those heavenly shores on Dec. 31, 2024, at Norton Scott Memorial Hospital in Scottsburg, IN, at 6:20 p.m.

Donald will be missed by his grandson, Trenton Campbell and fiancée, Jenna Vest of Austin, IN; his granddaughter, Kailee Campbell and companion, Joshua Theroux of Austin, IN; his great grandchildren, Braxton Campbell and Madison Dannheiser; his step daughter, Misty Combs; his step great granddaughter, Whitney Ellis; his sister, Ollie Teltow & her husband: Terry of Lovette, IN; his brother in law, Rev. Jerry Ison of Carrollton, KY; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father, Curtis Taylor Campbell;

his mother, Myrtle Frances Dixon Campbell; his son, Joshua Curtis “Josh” Campbell, his great granddaughter, Adalyn Rae Theroux; his step daughter, Tina Jo Ellis; his sister, Joyce Ann Campbell Ison; his sister, Mahala Lorene Campbell Hinkle; his brother in law, Henry Hinkle.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025, at 1 p.m., by Rev. Jerry Ison at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the New Providence Cemetery, 2529 North Slab Road in Austin, IN.

Friends may visit Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025, from 11 a.m. — 1 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

A final salute with military honors will be conducted Thursday, Jan. 9, 2025, by the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion.

Memorial contributions may be made to the donor’s charity of choice. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Colonel Norbert Anthony ‘Tony’ Steinhardt Jr.

Colonel Norbert Anthony “Tony” Steinhardt Jr. (Ret. U.S. Army, National Guard) Madison, IN, lost a beloved civic leader, dedicated serviceman, and cherished family man with the passing of Colonel Norbert Anthony “Tony” Steinhardt Jr., age 81, on Jan. 1, 2025, at 2:19 a.m., at the Norton Brownsboro Hospital in Louisville, KY. Born on Feb. 13, 1943, in Madison, IN, to Norbert Anthony Sr. and Anna Elizabeth Glauber Steinhardt, Tony’s life was one of service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to his hometown.

Tony will be missed by his loving wife of 59 years, Phyllis Jo DeVeary Steinhardt of Madison, IN; his loving sons, Norbert Anthony Steinhardt, III and his wife, Hilary of Madison, IN, Scott Andrew Steinhardt, Sr. and his wife, Karen of Easton, MD; his granddaughter, Sydney Anna Steinhardt; his grandsons, Norbert Anthony Steinhardt, IV, Scott Andrew

Steinhardt, II, William Davis Steinhardt; his brothers, John Michael Steinhardt and his wife, Brenda of Madison, IN, Joseph Albert Steinhardt of Madison, IN; his sisters, Anna Catherine Fisher and her husband, James of Madison, IN, Patricia Ann Owens of Madison, IN; his mother in law, Wauneta Barnes DeVeary of Madison, IN; his sister-in-law, Donna Wehner and her husband, Randy of Madison, IN; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death byhis father, Norbert Anthony Steinhardt, Sr.; his mother, Anna Elizabeth Glauber Steinhardt, and his father in law, Emmett C. DeVeary.

Funeral Mass will be conducted on Friday, Jan. 17, 2025, at 11 a.m., by Father Christopher A. Craig at the Prince of Peace Catholic Church. 413 East Second Street in downtown Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the St. Joseph Cemetery on North Walnut Street in downtown Madison,

IN.

Friends may visit Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025, from 4 — 7 p.m., and Friday, Jan. 17, 2025, from 9 until 10:30 a.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

The members of the Madison Elks Lodge No. 524 will hold a memorial lodge service on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025, at 6:45 p.m.

The Rosary will be prayed on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025, at 7 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Military honors will be conducted by the Indiana National Guard Ceremonial Unit.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Jefferson County Veterans Fund the Community Foundation of Madison, and Jefferson County. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Frederick J. Cantrell, 80, of Madison, IN, die Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, at Norton King’s Daughters’ Health in Madison. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Mary E. Wiley Carr, 93, of Martinsville, IN, and formerly of Vevay, IN, died Friday, Jan. 3, at the IU Health Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. Arrangement will be announced by Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, www.haskellandmorrison.com

Leland “Sonny” Creech, 80 of Jeffersonville, IN, died Monday, Dec. 30, 2024, at his home. A celebration of life will be at 2 p.m., Thursd, Jan. 9, at Grayson Funeral Home in Charlestown, IN, with burial in Crown Hill Cemetery in New Washington, www.graysonfuneralhome.com.

Deborah Kay Munsie Cummings, 70, of

Worthville, KY, died Thursday, Dec. 12, 2024. No services are scheduled at this time. Arrangements by Garnett-New Funeral Home in Warsaw, KY, www.gnmfh.com.

David Edwards, 74, of Madison, IN, died Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, at the Hosparus Inpatient Unit of Norton Pavilion in Louisville. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Bonnie Asher Hoskins, 83, of Carrollton, KY, died Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, in La Grange, KY. Funeral service is 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, at Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneralhome.com.

Kathryn Frances Davis O’Neal, 94, of Madison, IN, died Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, at her home. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison,

and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Linda Sue Phillips, 80, of Carrollton, KY, died Thursday, Jan. 2, 2025, in Warsaw, KY. Graveside service was Saturday, Jan. 4, at Bedford Cemetery in Bedford, KY. Arrangements by Tandy-Eckler-Riley Funeral Home in Carrollton, www.tandyecklerrileyfuneralhome.com.

Constance Finney Rhoten, 91, of Lexington, KY, died Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024. Service has been postponed due to inclement weather and travel concerns. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan and Nay Centres of Madison, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

John Bruce Rowilson, 77, of Madison, IN, died Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, at River Terrace Health Campus in Madison. Arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Martin Douglas ‘Doug’ Shuler

Martin Douglas “Doug” Shuler, age 68, of Vevay, IN, at Sandy Beach near Brooksburg entered this life on Dec. 14, 1956, in Indianapolis, IN, at Methodist Hospital. He was the loving son of Wayne Franklin “Bud” and Eileen Mary Brouse Shuler. Doug died on Friday, Jan. 3, 2025, at 2:18 p.m., at the Norton Brownsboro Hospital in Louisville, KY.

Doug will be missed by his loving wife of 46 years, Karen Leigh Barnes Shuler of Vevay, IN; his loving daughters, Heather Brooks and her husband, Derek of Brooksburg, IN, Holly Shuler of Brooksburg, IN; his adoring grandchildren, Kodie, Trinidie, Autumn, and Makinzie; his sisters, Kathy Hershey and her husband, John of Westfield, IN, Donna Lennox Hobson and

her husband, Kenneth of Zionsville, IN, Yonna Heath and her husband, Jeff of Brooksburg, IN, Yolanda Jo Simmons of Madison, IN, Yvonna “Yo Yo” Tilley and her husband, Andy of Madison, IN; his sisters in law, Pam Barnes of Dupont, IN, and Mary “Cricket” Shuler of Bon Aqua, TN; his brother in law, Jerry Barnes and his wife, Pat of Madison, IN; his aunts, Wauneta Deveary of Madison, IN, and Mary Parker and her husband, Gary of Sarasota, FL; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father, Wayne Franklin “Bud” Shuler; his mother, Eileen Mary Brouse Shuler; his brother, Anthony David “Tony” Shuler; his brothers in law, James Lennox, Kurt Douglas Barnes, and Kenneth

Wayne Barnes; his father in law and his mother in law, William Lamar Barnes, and Beatrice Mae Koivu Barnes.

Funeral services will be conducted Sunday, Jan. 12, 2025, at 1 p.m., by Pastor John Hart, Pastor Mark Lee and Pastor Jeff Douglas at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive Madison, IN.

Friends may visit Sunday, Jan. 12, 2025, from 10 a.m. — 1 p.m., at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Brooksburg Baptist Church. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENTS

Madison Performing Arts Foundation Concert
Hanover College, Fitzgibbon Hall, Lynn Center for Fine Arts
Friday, Jan. 10, 7 p.m.
Hanover College music faculty members Jonathan Stanley, tenor, and Madlen Batchvarova, piano, will perform Divine Love, a survey of sacred songs and arias from J.S. Bach through Moses Hogan. Free.

Madison Performing Arts Foundation Concert
The Picker House, 110 St. Michaels Ave., Madison
Sunday, Jan. 12, 4 p.m.
Music faculty members William Herzog (violin) and Christina Seal (piano) from Northern Kentucky University will perform Gwenyth Walker’s Fantasy Etudes, Prokofiev’s Sonata 2, Biber’s Passacaglia and more.

Gallery Reception
The SPOT
326 Mulberry Street, Madison
Friday, Jan. 17, 5-8 p.m.
Reception for the paintings of Dallas Gambill and works by Brette McGlasson with talks about the art at 6 p.m.
Two exhibits on display Jan.

5-30. Free.

Pop-Up Poetry Event
House of Jane
207 East Main Street, Madison
Saturday, Jan. 18, 2-4:30 p.m.
Indiana Chitlin Circuit, a poetry reading in the round, featuring Indiana Poet Laureate Curtis L. Crisler with National Beat Poet Laureate Ron Whitehead, performing with Bluesman Keith Scott and Madison Poet Jill Kelly Koren. Free.

FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS
Salvation Army Food Bank
331 East Main St.
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays noon-1 p.m.
A food giveaway at the red door on east side of building. Bring your own bags.
For more information, call 812-265-2157.

House of Hope Food Pantry
100 East 2nd St., Madison
Tuesdays 5-7 p.m.; Fridays 9-11 a.m.
A food giveaway and distribution at the Jefferson County House of Hope Food Pantry in downtown Madison. Please arrive at the pantry 15 minutes prior to

closing to be served.

CLOTHING DISTRIBUTIONS
Jesus Clothes Closet
Trinity United Methodist Church
412 W. Main St., Madison
Mondays 9-11 a.m.
Jesus Clothes Closet distributes free clothing to those in need. For more information, call 812-866-4843.

SENIOR EVENTS
Hanover Senior Citizens Center
Exercising: The Hanover Senior Citizens Program is offering free exercising at the Hanover Park Community Center on Mondays and Thursdays at 10 a.m.
Lunch: The Hanover Senior Citizens Program is serving lunch at noon on Fridays at the Hanover Park Community Center.
Cost is \$5 and RSVP is

required by calling 812-498-2894.

Madison Senior Citizens Center
Senior Meals: Lifetime Resources will be providing congregate meals at the Madison Senior Center, 208 West Main St. on Tuesday and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Meals are free for anyone over age 60 with a suggested donation of \$6.

Meals are \$6 for anyone under age 60.
Game Days: The Madison Senior Citizens Center hosts weekly card days and Bingo at the Senior Citizens Center in downtown Madison.
The schedule includes Euchre on Mondays and Thursdays from noon until 10 games are completed and Bingo on Tuesdays from 10-11:30 a.m.
The games are free and open to senior citizens.

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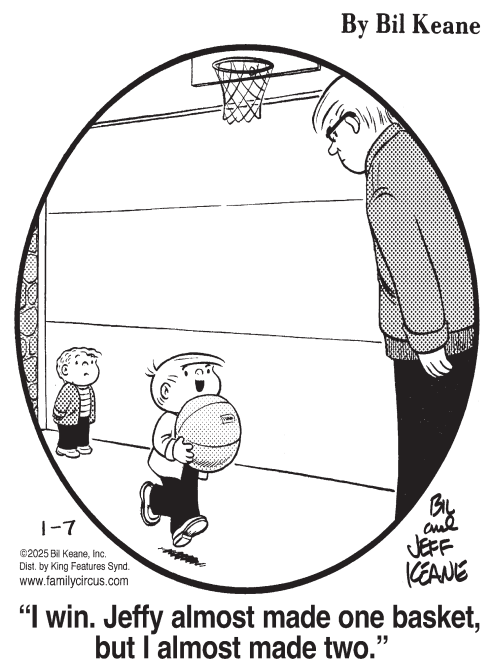


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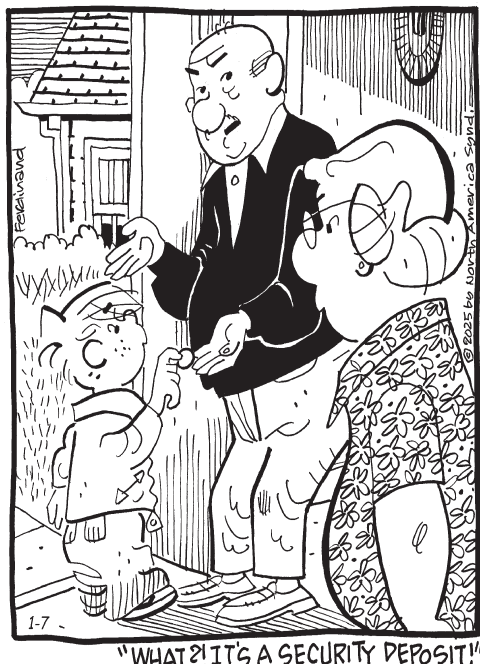
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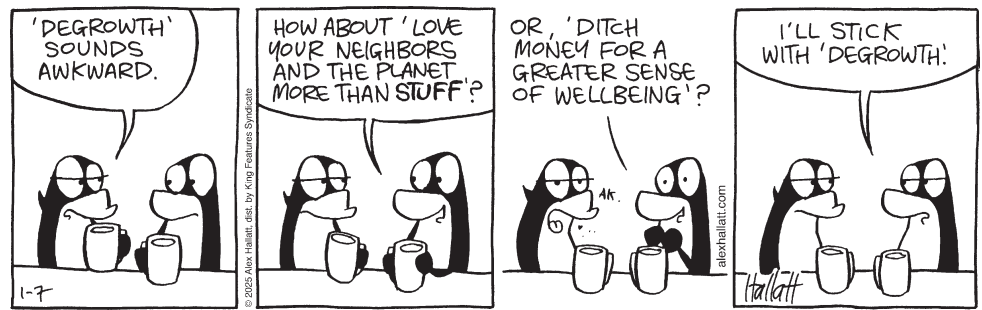
THE FAMILY CIRCUS



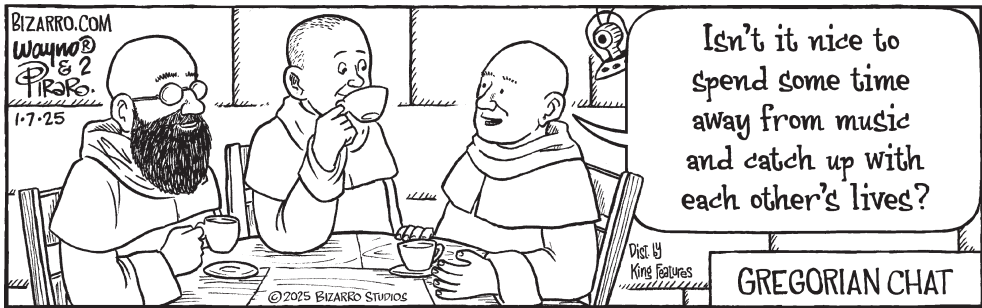
DENNIS THE MENACE



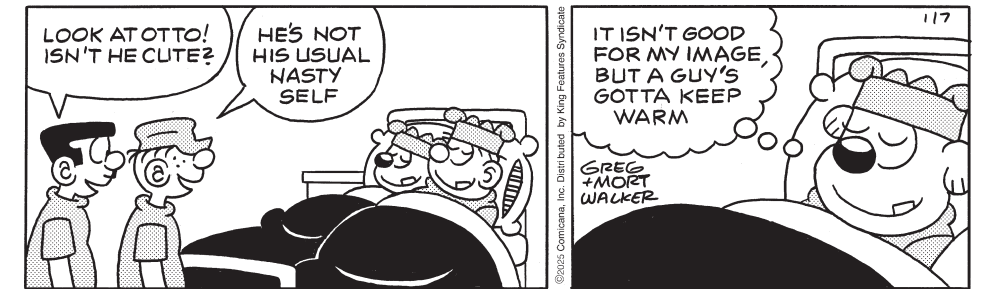
ARCTIC CIRCLE



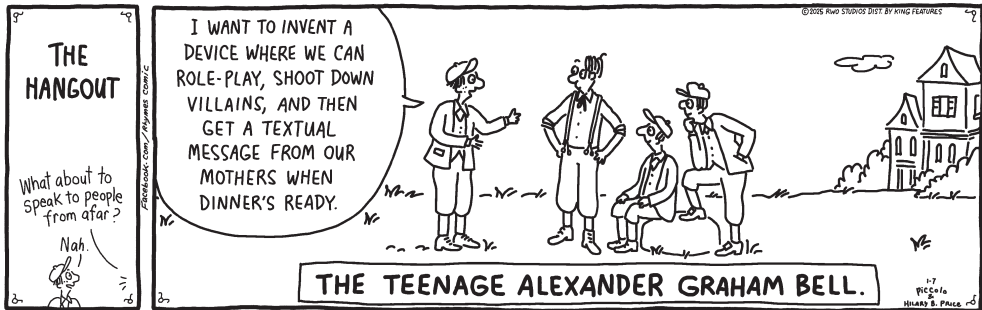
BIZARRO



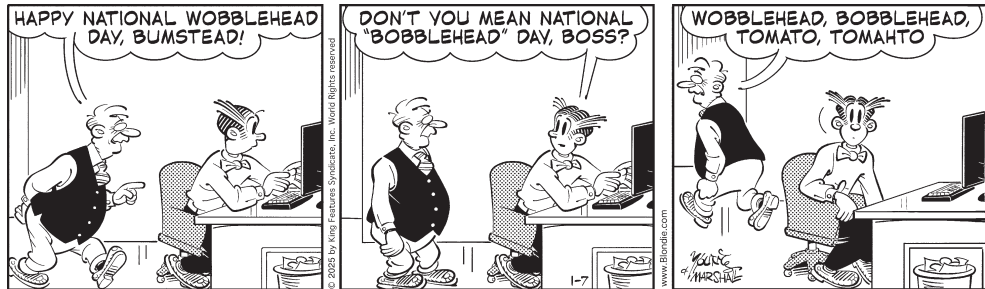
BEETLE BAILEY



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



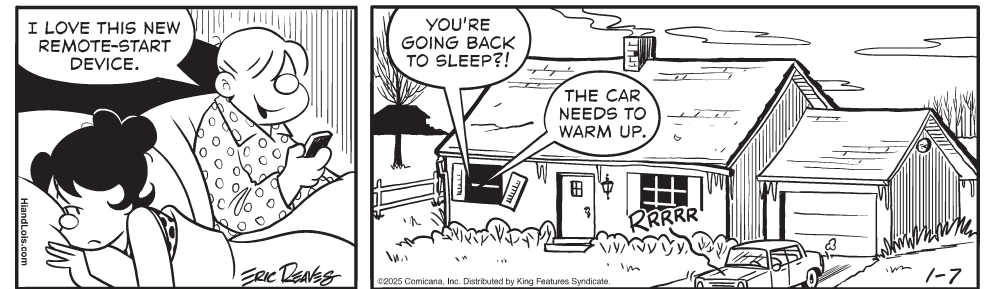
BLONDIE



CURTIS



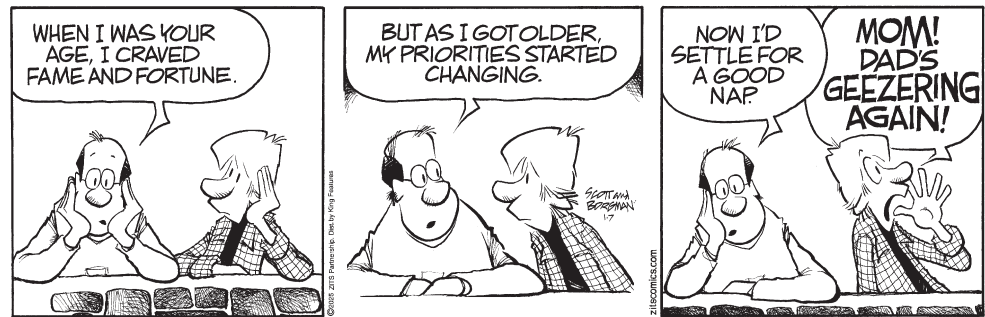
HI & LOIS



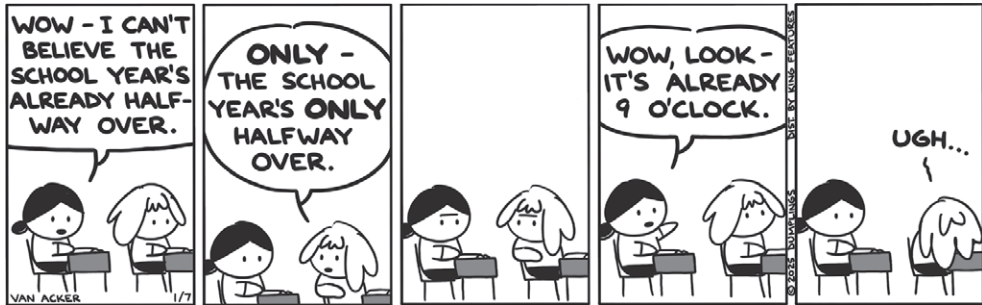
PARDON MY PLANET



ZITS



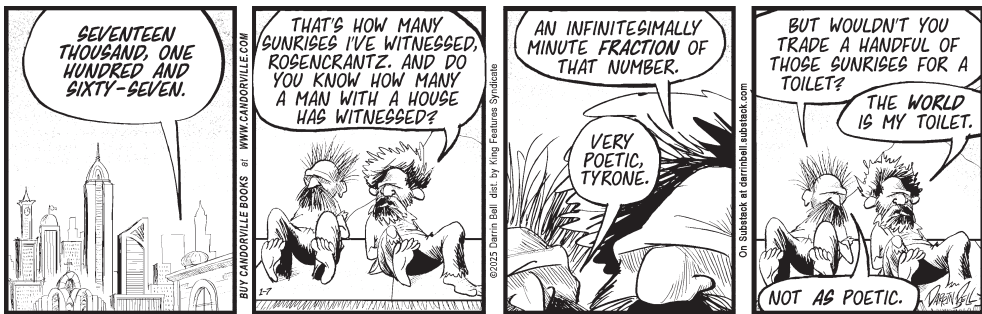
DUMPLINGS



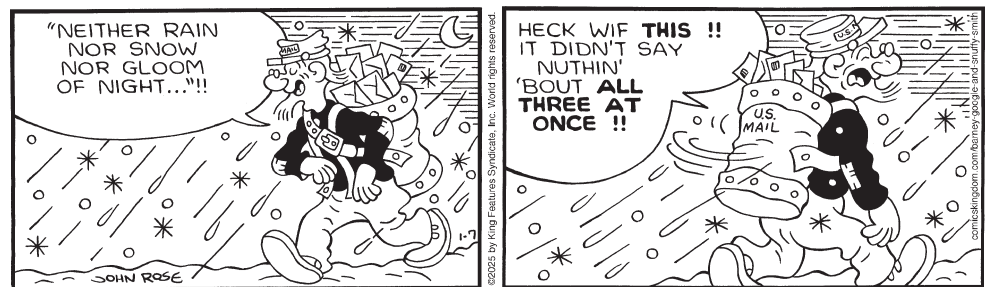
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



CANDORVILLE



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



SALLY FORTH



DUSTIN

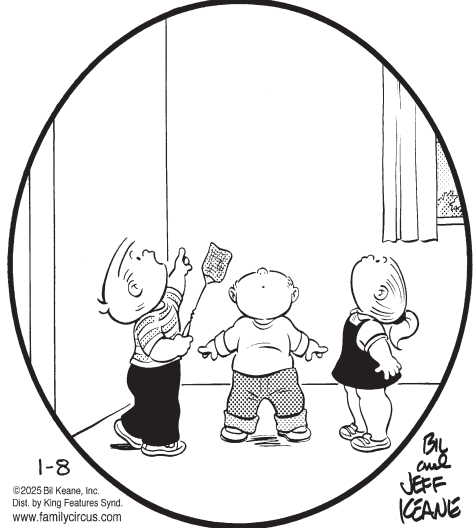


MUTTS



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



1-8

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Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com

“There he is! Somebody run upstairs and stomp on the floor!”

By and Jeff KEANE

DENNIS THE MENACE

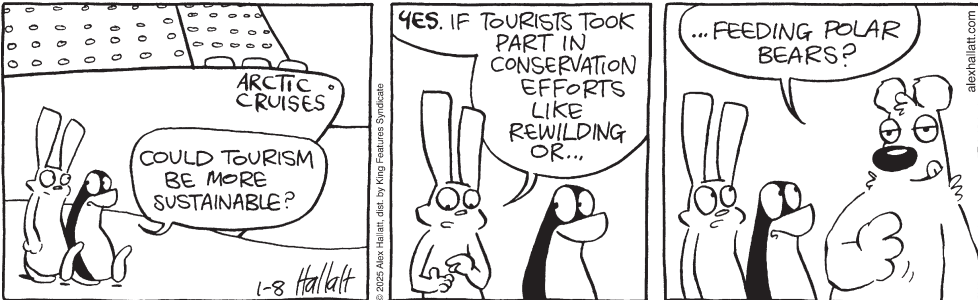
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“IF VEGETABLES ARE SO GOOD, WHY DON'T THEY COME WITH FRIES AND A MILK SHAKE?”

ARCTIC CIRCLE



ARCTIC CRUISES

COULD TOURISM BE MORE SUSTAINABLE?

1-8 Hal Kelt

YES. IF TOURISTS TOOK PART IN CONSERVATION EFFORTS LIKE REWILDING OR...

...FEEDING POLAR BEARS?

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BIZARRO

Waymond & 3 PIRRS: 1-8-25

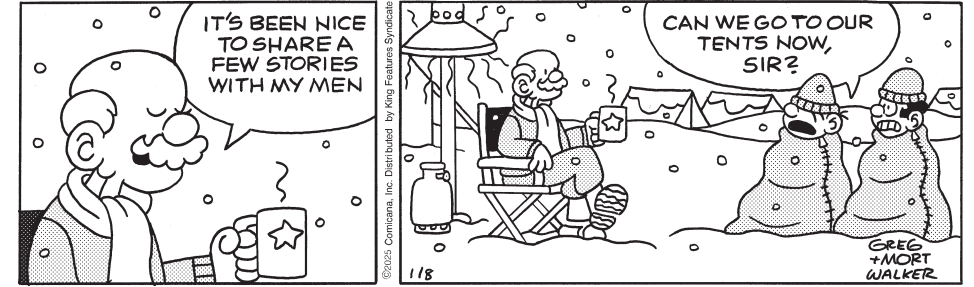


Climb up the spout, get washed out, and do it again every day until there's no climb left in you.

ITSY-BITSY FATALISM

©2025 FLAHERTY STRINGS

BEETLE BAILEY



IT'S BEEN NICE TO SHARE A FEW STORIES WITH MY MEN

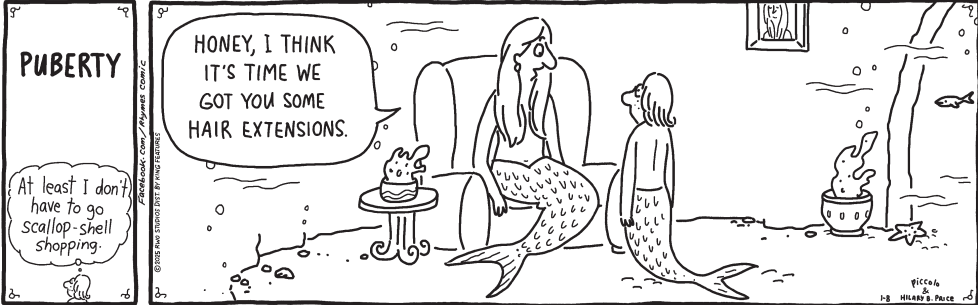
CAN WE GO TO OUR TENTS NOW, SIR?

118

GREG + MORT WALKER

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RHYMES WITH ORANGE



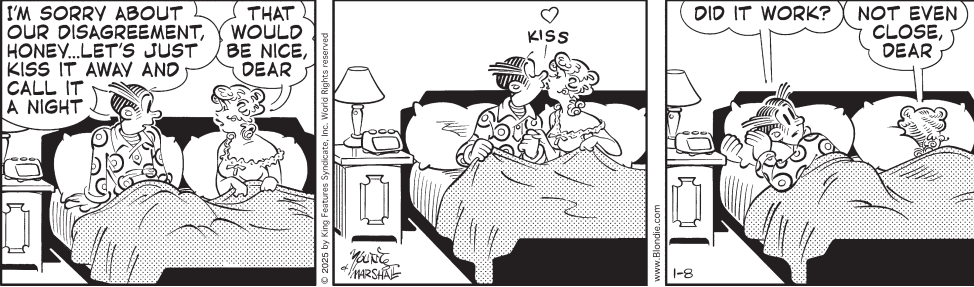
PUBERTY

HONEY, I THINK IT'S TIME WE GOT YOU SOME HAIR EXTENSIONS.

At least I don't have to go scallop-shell shopping.

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BLONDIE



I'M SORRY ABOUT OUR DISAGREEMENT, HONEY...LET'S JUST KISS IT AWAY AND CALL IT A NIGHT

THAT WOULD BE NICE, DEAR

KISS

DID IT WORK? NOT EVEN CLOSE, DEAR

1-8

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CURTIS



OH, HONEY, YOUR OLD CHAIR WASN'T STOLEN! I BOUGHT YOU THIS PLUSH NEW CHAIR!

BUT I DIDN'T WANT ANY NEW CHAIR, DIANE! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I LOVED MY OLD CHAIR!!

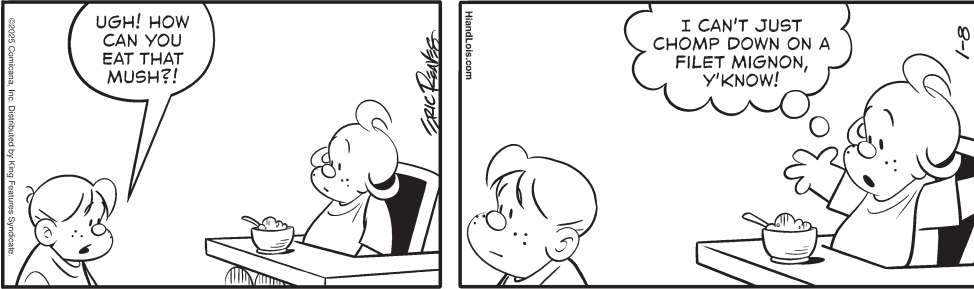
GREG, YOU HAD THAT CHAIR FOR TWENTY YEARS! C'MON, SIT ON THE NEW ONE!

NEVER! -MY BUTT WOULD FEEL LIKE IT'S CHEATING ON MY FAVORITE CHAIR!!

1-8

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HI & LOIS



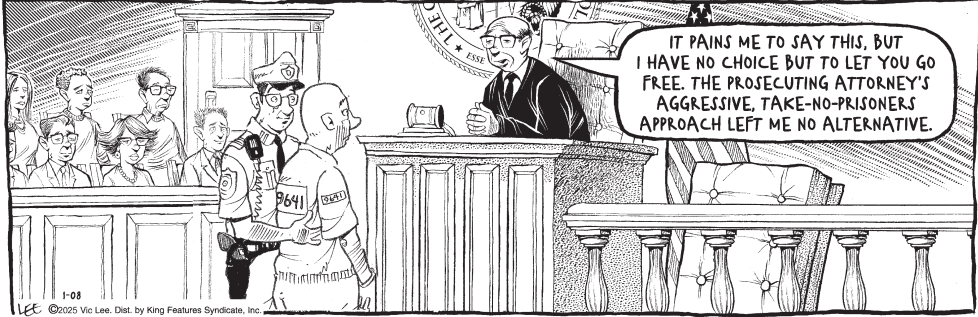
UGH! HOW CAN YOU EAT THAT MUSH?!

I CAN'T JUST CHOMP DOWN ON A FILET MIGNON, Y'KNOW!

1-8

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PARDON MY PLANET



IT PAINS ME TO SAY THIS, BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LET YOU GO FREE. THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S AGGRESSIVE, TAKE-NO-PRISONERS APPROACH LEFT ME NO ALTERNATIVE.

1-8

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ZITS



I'LL LEAN RIGHT TO TURN RIGHT, AND LEFT TO TURN LEFT.

AM I MISSING ANYTHING?

AN OUNCE OF SENSE?

YOU CAN'T MISS SOMETHING YOU NEVER HAD!

1-8

SCOTT AND BORGMAN

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DUMPLINGS



IT'S THE KING'S BIRTHDAY TODAY. WE HAVE A KING? HOW LONG WAS I ASLEEP?

IS IT THAT LOUD ORANGE GUY? I'M TALKING ABOUT ELVIS, YOU PEA-BRAIN.

THE KING'S NAME IS ELVIS? I THINK A GEORGE OR A HENRY WOULD GET MORE RESPECT.

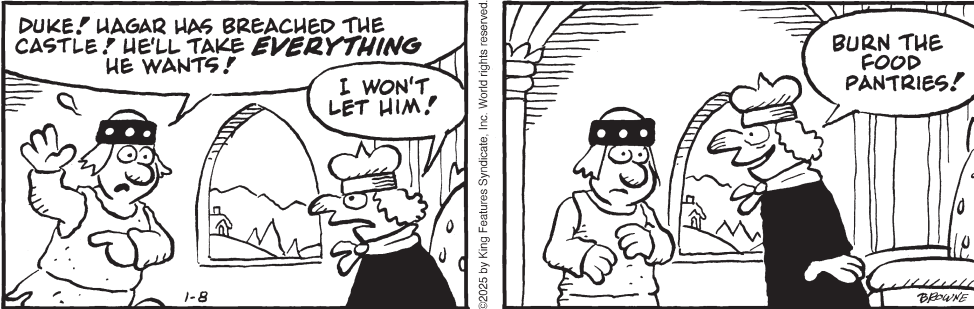
EVEN A MAXIMILLIAN...

1-8

DIET BY KING FEATURES

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



DUKE! HAGAR HAS BREACHED THE CASTLE! HE'LL TAKE EVERYTHING HE WANTS!

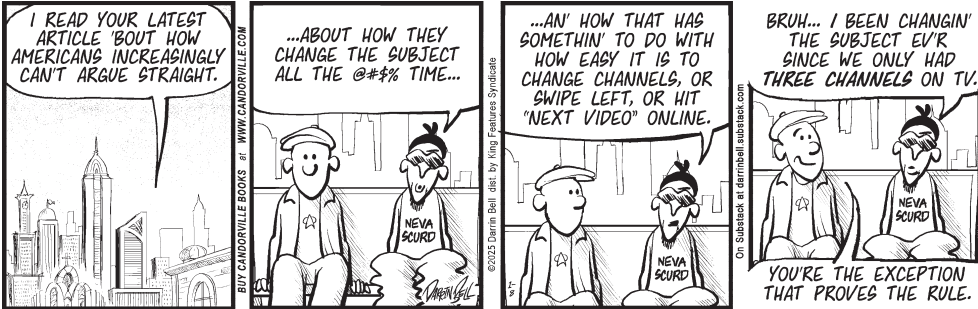
I WON'T LET HIM!

BURN THE FOOD PANTRIES!

1-8

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CANDORVILLE



I READ YOUR LATEST ARTICLE 'BOUT HOW AMERICANS INCREASINGLY CAN'T ARGUE STRAIGHT.

...ABOUT HOW THEY CHANGE THE SUBJECT ALL THE @*%* TIME...

...AN' HOW THAT HAS SOMETHIN' TO DO WITH HOW EASY IT IS TO CHANGE CHANNELS, OR SWIPE LEFT, OR HIT "NEXT VIDEO" ONLINE.

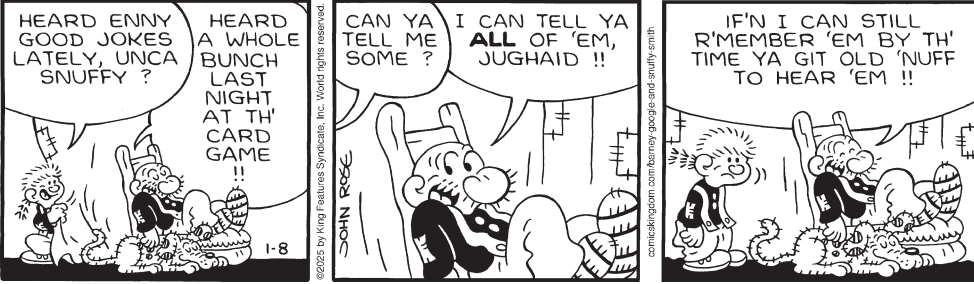
BRUH... I BEEN CHANGIN' THE SUBJECT EV'R SINCE WE ONLY HAD THREE CHANNELS ON TV.

YOU'RE THE EXCEPTION THAT PROVES THE RULE.

1-8

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BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



HEARD ENNY GOOD JOKES LATELY, UNCA SNUFFY?

HEARD A WHOLE BUNCH LAST NIGHT AT TH' CARD GAME !!

CAN YA TELL ME SOME ?

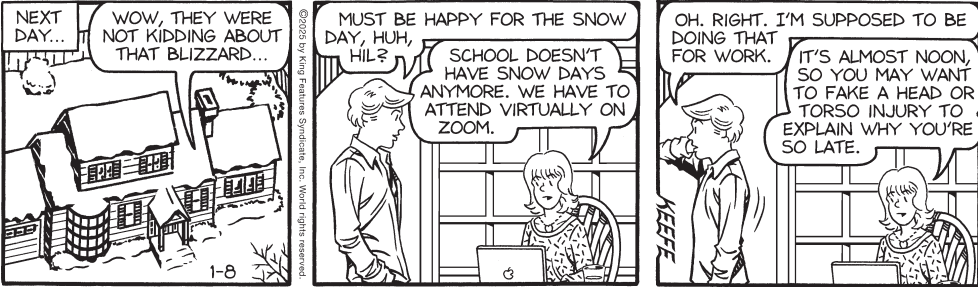
I CAN TELL YA ALL OF 'EM, JUGHAID !!

IF'N I CAN STILL R'MEMBER 'EM BY TH' TIME YA GIT OLD 'NUFF TO HEAR 'EM !!

1-8

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SALLY FORTH



NEXT DAY...

WOW, THEY WERE NOT KIDDING ABOUT THAT BLIZZARD...

MUST BE HAPPY FOR THE SNOW DAY, HUH, HIL?

SCHOOL DOESN'T HAVE SNOW DAYS ANYMORE. WE HAVE TO ATTEND VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM.

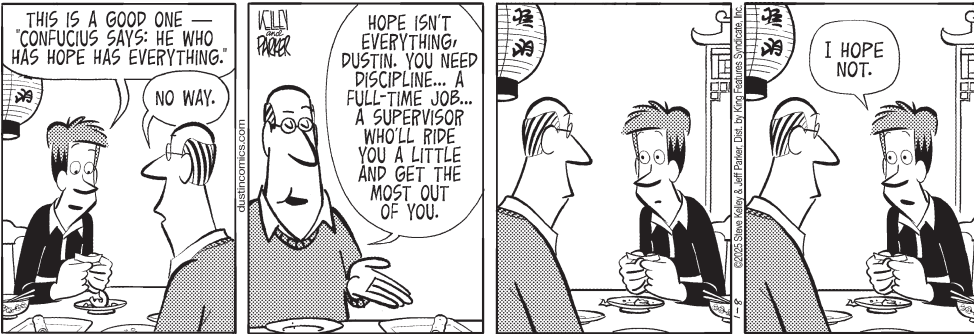
OH, RIGHT. I'M SUPPOSED TO BE DOING THAT FOR WORK.

IT'S ALMOST NOON, SO YOU MAY WANT TO FAKE A HEAD OR TORSO INJURY TO EXPLAIN WHY YOU'RE SO LATE.

1-8

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DUSTIN



THIS IS A GOOD ONE — "CONFUCIUS SAYS: HE WHO HAS HOPE HAS EVERYTHING."

NO WAY.

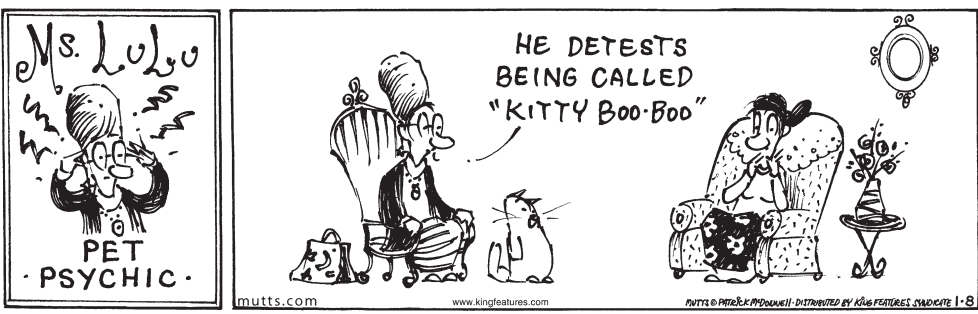
HOPE ISN'T EVERYTHING, DUSTIN. YOU NEED DISCIPLINE... A FULL-TIME JOB... A SUPERVISOR WHO'LL RIDE YOU A LITTLE AND GET THE MOST OUT OF YOU.

I HOPE NOT.

1-8

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MUTTS



Ms. Lulu

PET PSYCHIC

HE DETESTS BEING CALLED "KITTY BOO-BOO"

1-8

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Carter: Many evolutions for a centenarian ‘citizen of the world’

BY BILL BARROW
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PLAINS, Ga. — Newly married and sworn as a Naval officer, Jimmy Carter left his tiny hometown in 1946 hoping to climb the ranks and see the world.

Less than a decade later, the death of his father and namesake, a merchant farmer and local politician who went by “Mr. Earl,” prompted the submariner and his wife, Rosalynn, to return to the rural life of Plains, Georgia, they thought they’d escaped.

The lieutenant never would be an admiral. Instead, he became commander in chief. Years after his presidency ended in humbling defeat, he would add a Nobel Peace Prize, awarded not for his White House accomplishments but “for his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development.”

The life of James Earl Carter Jr., the 39th and longest-lived U.S. president, ended Dec. 29 at the age of 100 where it began: Plains, the town of 600 that fueled his political rise, welcomed him after his fall and sustained him during 40 years of service that redefined what it means to be a former president.

With the stubborn confidence of an engineer and an optimism rooted in his Baptist faith, Carter described his motivations in politics and beyond in the same way: an almost missionary zeal to solve problems and improve lives.

Carter was raised amid racism, abject poverty and hard rural living — realities that shaped both his deliberate politics and emphasis on human rights.

“He always felt a responsibility to help people,” said Jill Stuckey, a longtime friend of Carter’s in Plains. “And when he couldn’t make change wherever he was, he decided he had to go higher.”

DEFYING EXPECTATIONS

Carter’s path, a mix of happenstance and calculation, pitted moral imperatives against political pragmatism; and it defied typical labels of American politics, especially caricatures of one-term presidents as failures.

“We shouldn’t judge presidents by how popular they are in their day. That’s a very narrow way of assessing them,” Carter biographer Jonathan Alter told the Associated Press. “We should judge them by how they changed the country and the world for the better. On that score, Jimmy Carter is not in the first rank of American presidents, but he stands up quite well.”

Later in life, Carter conceded that many Americans, even those too young to remember his tenure, judged him ineffective for failing to contain inflation or interest rates, end the energy crisis or quickly bring home American hostages in Iran. He gained admirers instead for his work at The

Carter condolence book available for public signing

BY THE COURIER STAFF

A condolence book where local residents can express their sympathy and gratitude to the family and legacy of President Jimmy Carter is available for public signing at Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive, Madison, through Thursday, Jan. 9, during business hours.

Carter, who served as the 39th President of the United States from 1977-1981, died Dec. 29 at age 100. The condolence book will be sent to the Carter Presidential Center in Atlanta.

Morgan & Nay Vice-President and Funeral Director Josh Webb plans to attend the public visitation for President Carter in Washington, D.C., a personal salute that Webb has extended to all U.S. Presidents who have died



Submitted

Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison has established a condolence book for President Jimmy Carter that local residents may sign through Thursday. The book will then be delivered to the Carter Presidential Center in Atlanta.

during his tenure with Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre since 2006. The funeral home has

made available condolence books for other past presidents who have died in recent years.

Carter Center — advocating globally for public health, human rights and democracy since 1982 — and the decades he and Rosalynn wore hardhats and swung hammers with Habitat for Humanity.

Yet the common view that he was better after the Oval Office than in it annoyed Carter, and his allies relished him living long enough to see historians reassess his presidency.

“He doesn’t quite fit in today’s terms” of a left-right, red-blue scoreboard, said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, who visited the former president multiple times during his own White House bid.

At various points in his political career, Carter labeled himself “progressive” or “conservative” — sometimes both at once. His most ambitious health care bill failed — perhaps one of his biggest legislative disappointments — because it didn’t go far enough to suit liberals. Republicans, especially after his 1980 defeat, cast him as a left-wing cartoon.

It would be easiest to classify Carter as a centrist, Buttigieg said, “but there’s also something radical about the depth of his commitment to looking after those who are left out of society and out of the economy.”

‘COUNTRY COME TO TOWN’

Indeed, Carter’s legacy is stitched with complexities, contradictions and evolutions — personal and political.

The self-styled peacemaker was a war-trained Naval Academy graduate who promised Democratic challenger Ted Kennedy that he’d “kick his ass.” But he campaigned with a call to treat everyone with “respect and compassion and with love.”

Carter vowed to restore America’s virtue after the

shame of Vietnam and Watergate, and his technocratic, good-government approach didn’t suit Republicans who tagged government itself as the problem. It also sometimes put Carter at odds with fellow Democrats.

The result still was a notable legislative record, with wins on the environment, education, and mental health care. He dramatically expanded federally protected lands, began deregulating air travel, railroads and trucking, and he put human rights at the center of U.S. foreign policy. As a fiscal hawk, Carter added a relative pittance to the national debt, unlike successors from both parties.

Carter nonetheless struggled to make his achievements resonate with the electorate he charmed in 1976. Quoting Bob Dylan and grinning enthusiastically, he had promised voters he would “never tell a lie.” Once in Washington, though, he led like a joyless engineer, insisting his ideas would become reality and he’d be rewarded politically if only he could convince enough people with facts and logic.

This served him well at Camp David, where he brokered peace between Israel’s Menachem Begin and Egypt’s Anwar Sadat, an experience that later sparked the idea of The Carter Center in Atlanta. Carter’s tenacity helped the center grow to a global force that monitored elections across five continents, enabled his freelance diplomacy and sent public health experts across the developing world. The center’s wins were personal for Carter, who hoped to outlive the last Guinea worm parasite, and nearly did.

As president, though, the approach fell short when he urged consumers beleaguered by energy costs to turn down their thermostats. Or when he tried to

be the nation’s cheerleader, beseeching Americans to overcome a collective “crisis of confidence.”

Republican Ronald Reagan exploited Carter’s lecturing tone with a belittling quip in their lone 1980 debate. “There you go again,” the former Hollywood actor said in response to a wonky answer from the sitting president. “The Great Communicator” outpaced Carter in all but six states.

Carter later suggested he “tried to do too much, too soon” and mused that he was incompatible with Washington culture: media figures, lobbyists and Georgetown social elites who looked down on the Georgians and their inner circle as “country come to town.”

A ‘LEADER OF CONSCIENCE’ ON RACE AND CLASS

Carter carefully navigated divides on race and class on his way to the Oval Office.

Born Oct. 1, 1924, Carter was raised in the mostly Black community of Archery, just outside Plains, by a progressive mother and white supremacist father. Their home had no running water or electricity but the future president still grew up with the relative advantages of a locally prominent, land-owning family in a system of Jim Crow segregation.

He wrote of President Franklin Roosevelt’s towering presence and his family’s Democratic Party roots, but his father soured on FDR, and Jimmy Carter never campaigned or governed as a New Deal liberal. He offered himself as a small-town peanut farmer with an understated style, carrying his own luggage, bunking with supporters during his first presidential campaign and always using his nickname.

And he began his politi-

cal career in a whites-only Democratic Party.

As private citizens, he and Rosalynn supported integration as early as the 1950s and believed it inevitable. Carter refused to join the White Citizens Council in Plains and spoke out in his Baptist church against denying Black people access to worship services.

“This is not my house; this is not your house,” he said in a churchwide meeting, reminding fellow parishioners their sanctuary belonged to God.

Yet as the appointed chairman of Sumter County schools he never pushed to desegregate, thinking it impractical after the Supreme Court’s 1954 Brown v. Board decision. And while presidential candidate Carter would hail the 1965 Voting Rights Act, signed by fellow Democrat Lyndon Johnson when Carter was a state senator, there is no record of Carter publicly supporting it at the time.

Carter overcame a ballot-stuffing opponent to win his legislative seat, then lost the 1966 governor’s race to an arch-segregationist. He won four years later by avoiding explicit mentions of race and campaigning to the right of his rival, who he mocked as “Cufflinks Carl” — the insult of an ascendant politician who never saw himself as part of the establishment.

Carter’s rural and small-town coalition in 1970 would match any victorious Republican electoral map in 2024. Once elected, though, Carter shocked his white conservative supporters — and landed on the cover of Time magazine — by declaring that “the time for racial discrimination is over.”

Before making the jump to Washington, Carter befriended the family of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., whom he’d never sought out as he eyed the governor’s office. Carter lamented his foot-dragging on school integration as a “mistake.” But he also met, conspicuously, with Alabama’s segregationist Gov. George Wallace to accept his primary rival’s endorsement ahead of the 1976 Democratic convention.

“He very shrewdly took advantage of his own Southernness,” said Amber Roesser, a University of Tennessee professor and expert on Carter’s campaigns.

A coalition of Black voters and white moderate Democrats ultimately made Carter the last Democratic presidential nominee to sweep the Deep South. Then, just as he did in Georgia, he used his power in office to appoint more non-whites than all his predecessors had, combined.

He once acknowledged “the secret shame” of white Americans who didn’t fight segregation. But he also told Alter that doing more would have sacrificed his political viability — and thus everything he accomplished in office and after.

King’s daughter, Bernice King, described Carter as wisely “strategic” in win-

ning higher offices to enact change. “He was a leader of conscience,” she said in an interview.

ROSALYNN WAS CARTER’S CLOSEST ADVISOR

Rosalynn Carter, who died on Nov. 19 at the age of 96, was identified by both husband and wife as the “more political” of the pair; she sat in on Cabinet meetings and urged him to postpone certain priorities, like pressing the Senate to relinquish control of the Panama Canal.

“Let that go until the second term,” she would sometimes say.

The president, recalled her former aide Kathy Cade, retorted that he was “going to do what’s right” even if “it might cut short the time I have.”

Rosalynn held firm, Cade said: “She’d remind him you have to win to govern.”

Carter also was the first president to appoint multiple women as Cabinet officers. Yet by his own telling, his career sprouted from chauvinism in the Carters’ early marriage: He did not consult Rosalynn when deciding to move back to Plains in 1953 or before launching his state Senate bid a decade later.

Many years later, he called it “inconceivable” that he didn’t confer with the woman he described as his “full partner,” at home, in government and at The Carter Center.

“We developed a partnership when we were working in the farm supply business, and it continued when Jimmy got involved in politics,” Rosalynn Carter told AP in 2021.

So deep was their trust that when Carter remained tethered to the White House in 1980 as 52 Americans were held hostage in Tehran, it was Rosalynn who campaigned on her husband’s behalf.

“I just loved it,” she said, despite the bitterness of defeat.

REEVALUATING HIS LEGACY

Fair or not, the label of a disastrous presidency had leading Democrats keep their distance, at least publicly, for many years, but Carter managed to remain relevant, writing books and weighing in on societal challenges.

He lamented widening wealth gaps and the influence of money in politics. He voted for democratic socialist Bernie Sanders over Hillary Clinton in 2016, and later declared that America had devolved from fully functioning democracy to “oligarchy.”

Yet looking ahead to 2020, with Sanders running again, Carter warned Democrats not to “move to a very liberal program,” lest they help re-elect President Donald Trump. Carter scolded the Republican for his serial lies and threats to democracy, and chided the U.S. establishment for misunderstanding Trump’s populist appeal.



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Lawmakers brace for Trump’s promised Jan. 6 pardons

BY KEVIN FREKING
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The fourth anniversary of the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol has a new focus as lawmakers brace for the prospect that President-elect Donald Trump may soon pardon many of the more than 1,500 people charged with crimes for their actions related to the riot.

Trump said he would issue pardons to rioters on “Day 1” of his presidency, which begins Jan. 20. “Most likely, I’ll do it very quickly,” he said recently on NBC’s “Meet the Press.” He added that “those people have suffered long and hard. And there may be some exceptions to it. I have to look. But, you know, if somebody was radical, crazy.”

His promise, made throughout his campaign for the White House, is shadowing events Monday as lawmakers gather to certify a presidential election for the first time since 2021, when Trump’s supporters breached the Capitol and temporarily halted the certification of an election he lost to Democrat Joe Biden.

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., said she has spoken at length with

Trump and is lobbying him to pardon everyone who participated in the siege. Few Republicans are going that far, but many believe it’s appropriate for Trump to look at pardons on a case-by-case basis.

“Here we are nearly four years later. Many of these people have been in prison since 2021. Even the ones that fought Capitol Police, caused damage to the Capitol, I think they’ve served their time and I think they should all be pardoned and released from prison,” Greene said. “Some of these people have been given prison sentences: 10 years, 18 years and more. I think it’s an injustice. It’s a two-tiered justice system, and it’s time to end it.”

More than 1,250 have pleaded guilty or been convicted after trials in connection with Jan. 6, with more than 650 receiving prison time ranging from a few days to 22 years.

Many of those who broke into the Capitol were echoing Trump’s false claims about election fraud. Some rioters menacingly called out the names of prominent politicians — particular-

ly then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and then-Vice President Mike Pence, who refused to try to object to Biden’s win. Lawmakers who had evacuated both chambers on Jan. 6 returned that night to finish their work.

Police officers who defended the Capitol are particularly incensed about the possible pardons. Many officers were beaten, some with their own weapons, as they tried to hold back the mob. About 140 officers were injured on Jan. 6, making it “likely the largest single day mass assault of law enforcement” in American history, Matthew Graves, the outgoing U.S. attorney in the nation’s capital, has said.

“You cannot be pro-police officer and rule of law if you are pardoning people who betrayed that trust, injured police officers and ransacked the Capitol,” said Capitol Police Sgt. Aquilino Gonell, who retired due to his injuries after fighting rioters.

Some Republicans in Congress, even those closely aligned with Trump, suggested not all Jan. 6 offenders should be treated the same.

Rep. Jim Jordan, a top Trump ally who leads the House Judiciary Committee, said he supported some pardons, but also made a distinction.

“For people who didn’t commit any violence, I think everyone supports that. I think that makes sense,” said Jordan, R-Ohio.

Veteran Republican Rep. Gus Bilirakis, R-Fla., also wasn’t ready to go as far as Greene. “You’ve got to look at it individually. Some probably deserve to be pardoned,” he said.

But he was more reticent when asked if those who attacked U.S. Capitol police officers should be among those pardoned.

“My goodness. Again, I’d have to look at the scenario,” he said. “But if they attacked the U.S. Capitol Police, it’s a big problem.”

Rep. Dusty Johnson, R-S.D., said not every single charge is the same and that people who were trespassing are a different category from those who entered the Capitol and damaged property. He said he believes Trump will look at each individual circumstance and decide what is appropriate.

“People who attacked police officers, listen, I

don’t think that is something we should ever condone,” Johnson said.

House Democrats, who led the drive to impeach Trump over Jan. 6 and conducted a wide-ranging investigation into the attack, warned that the pardons could have far-reaching consequences, both for the rule of law and the security of the country. Members of the extremist Oath Keepers and Proud Boys, for instance, were convicted of seditious conspiracy and other crimes in relation to the insurrection.

“Those 140-odd law enforcement people who got hurt defending this institution, I think anyone who loves peace and security would be offended that you would pardon people who attacked those individuals for doing their jobs,” said Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss.

Thompson led the House committee that investigated the events surrounding Jan. 6, concluding with a report that said Trump “lit the fire” for the insurrection.

Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., who served as lead impeachment manager during Trump’s second impeachment trial in

which he was acquitted, said if pardons are going to happen, people should demand contrition and repentance from each of those pardoned and an affirmative statement they pose no further threat to public safety.

“Because anything that happens by these people, in a political context or some other context, will essentially be laid at the doorstep soon-to-be President Donald Trump,” Raskin said.

Like police officers who protected them, lawmakers who were in the Capitol during the attack have a visceral reaction to the pardon talk, having barely escaped a mob that seemed determined to do them harm.

Rep. Jim Himes, D-Conn., who was trapped in the House gallery as rioters tried to break in below, said it would be “extraordinarily difficult” for him and many others if Trump goes ahead with the pardons.

“I’m pretty controlled and pretty disciplined, but that would be really hard,” Himes said. “Too many of us had very personal experiences with the people who are serving time or were convicted.”

Higher Social Security payments coming for millions from bill Biden signed

BY FATIMA HUSSEIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Sunday signed into law a measure that boosts Social Security payments for current and former public employees, affecting nearly 3 million people who receive pensions from their time as teachers, firefighters, police officers and in other public service jobs.

Advocates say the Social Security Fairness Act rights a decades-old disparity, though it will also put strain on Social Security Trust Funds, which face a looming insolvency crisis.

The bill rescinds two provisions — the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset — that limit Social Security benefits for recipients if they get retirement payments from other sources, including public retirement programs from a state or local government.

“The bill I’m signing today is about a simple proposition: Americans who have worked hard all their life to earn an honest living should be able to retire with economic security and dignity — that’s the entire purpose of the Social Security system,” Biden said during a signing ceremony in the White House East Room.

“This is a big deal,” he said.

Biden was joined by labor leaders, retirement advocates, and Democratic and Republican lawmakers including the legislation’s primary sponsors, Maine Republican Sen. Susan Collins and exiting Ohio Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown, who received a standing ovation from ceremony attendees.

The Congressional Research Service estimated that in December 2023, there were 745,679 people, about 1% of all Social Security beneficiaries, who had their benefits reduced by the Government Pension Offset. About 2.1 million people, or about 3% of all beneficiaries, were affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision.

The Congressional Budget Office estimated in September that eliminating the Windfall Elimination Provision would boost monthly payments to the affected beneficiaries by an average of \$360 by December 2025. Ending the Government Pension Offset would increase monthly benefits in December 2025 by an average of \$700 for 380,000 recipients getting benefits based on living spouses, according to the CBO. The increase would be

an average of \$1,190 for 390,000 or surviving spouses getting a widow or widower benefit.

Those amounts would increase over time with Social Security’s regular cost-of-living adjustments.

The change is to payments from January 2024 and beyond, meaning the Social Security Administration would owe back-dated payments. The measure as passed by Congress says the Social Security commissioner “shall adjust primary insurance amounts to the extent necessary to take into account” changes in the law. It’s not immediately clear how this will happen or whether people affected will have to take any action.

Edward Kelly, president of the International Association of Fire Fighters, said firefighters across the country are “excited to see the change — we’ve righted a 40-year wrong.” Kelly said the policy was “far more egregious for surviving spouses of firefighters who paid their own quotas into Social Security but were victimized by the government pension system.”

The IAFF has roughly 320,000 members, which does not include hundreds of thousands of retirees who will benefit from the change.

“Now firefighters who get paid very little can now afford to actually retire,” Kelly said.

Brown, who as an Ohio senator pushed for the proposal for years, lost his reelection bid in November. Lee Saunders, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees labor union, thanked Brown for his advocacy.

“Over two million public service workers will finally be able to access the Social Security benefits they spent their careers paying into,” Saunders said in a statement. “Many will finally be able to enjoy retirement after a lifetime of service.”

National Education Association President Becky Pringle said the law is “a historic victory that will improve the lives of educators, first responders, postal workers and others who dedicate their lives to public service in their communities.”

And while some Republicans such as Collins supported the legislation, others, including Sens. John Thune of South Dakota, Rand Paul of Kentucky and Thom Tillis of North Carolina, voted against it. “We caved to the pressure of the moment instead of doing this on a sustainable basis,” Tillis told The Associated Press last month.

Still, Republican supporters of the bill said there was a rare opportunity to address what they described as an unfair section of federal law that hurts public service retirees.

The future of Social Security has become a top political issue and was a major point of contention in the 2024 election. About 72.5 million people, including retirees, disabled people and children, receive Social Security benefits.

The policy changes from the new law will heap more administrative work on the Social Security Administration, which is already at its lowest staffing level in decades. The agency, currently under a hiring freeze, has a staff of about 56,645 — the lowest level in over 50 years even as it serves more people than ever.

The annual Social Security and Medicare trustees report released last May said the program’s trust fund will be unable to pay full benefits beginning in 2035. The new law will hasten the program’s insolvency date by about half a year.

Along with ratifying the Social Security Fairness Act, earlier in his presidency Biden signed the Butch Lewis Act into law, which saved the retirement pensions of two million union workers.

ORION

FROM PAGE A1

Idlewild Solar Project LLC’s suit petitions the court for judicial review of the Jefferson County Board of Zoning Appeals’ decision on Nov. 19, 2024, denying Idlewild’s application for special exception. The document states, “This appeal seeks judicial review of the Jefferson County Board of Appeals’ arbitrary and capricious decision denying Idlewild’s

special exception application.”

County Surveyor Mike Pittman said the case is scheduled to be discussed in an executive session of the BZA on Tuesday, noting they are currently in the discovery phase of gathering and analyzing information. No court dates have been set.

Even though the challenge is characterized as a lawsuit, Cressner said the appeal process on decisions by the BZA is through the Circuit Court. “I wouldn’t call this a law-

suit because it’s not like we’re suing the county but the state of Indiana has a process to where the only way to do an appeal is to go through the legal process through the court system to process that appeal” that would send the application back to the BZA to be heard again.

The Idlewild Solar Project petition stated that the BZA’s two public hearings — one on Oct. 1 and one on Nov. 7 — provided no substantial evidence that the project did not meet all the requirements under

Jefferson County’s Unified Development Ordinance, and evidence presented in opposition was either irrelevant to the special exception elements, erroneous and/or speculative. The petition stated, “Ultimately, approval was the only reasonable decision that the BZA could have reached based on the evidence submitted.”

The petition also states the BZA’s decision and in issuing its findings of fact, “the BZA committed errors and abused its discretion,” and “improperly

relied on speculation, conjecture and opinions founded on unreasonable and irrational animus towards renewable energy sources rather than the actual testimony and evidence presented.”

Jefferson County is currently under a one-year moratorium on solar applications — established by the County Commissioners prior to the BZA’s decision — that runs through Sept. 19, 2025. With a technical committee established to improve solar regulations in the coun-

ty’s Unified Development Ordinance, the Commissioners established the one-year moratorium in September of last year in order to make the updates before any additional solar applications are received. However, Orion application’s had moved forward because it had been made before the moratorium had been set. With the application denied, Orion would also have the option to reapply with another application for the Idlewild Solar Project when the moratorium ends.

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SNOWED

FROM PAGE A1

Carroll County EMA Director Tony Crutcher reported only slide offs, and no serious vehicle incidents in that county as of Monday afternoon and that’s due in large part to the very few motorists attempting travel. “People are listening. Folks are staying home like they should be.”

Trimble County EMA Director Andrew Stark likewise reported a very few vehicle incidents and only slide offs but nothing serious. He also reported that less than 10 residents had lost power in Trimble County. Crutcher reported a minor power outage in Ghent with Kentucky Utilities working to restore power Monday.

The weather conditions have resulted in several closings from schools, to businesses and factories and government offices.

On Monday, Madison Consolidated Schools announced a synchronous virtual day on Tuesday but had made no decision beyond that. Switzerland County schools are closed Tuesday and Christian Academy of Madison will have a virtual learning day Tuesday. Both Carroll County and Trimble County have opted to remain closed Tuesday and Wednesday and Christian Academy of Carrollton will implement virtual learning on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb activated the Indiana National Guard to provide winter storm support and assistance to state and local responders. The governor’s office says the response package includes Indiana National Guard Highway Assistance Teams that are available to assist strand-



Mark Campbell

Residents on St. Michaels Avenue did their best to clear a path in Sunday’s heavy snowfall but with snow falling at about an inch per hour, sidewalks were covered almost as fast as they were cleared. About 7 inches of snow and ice had accumulated by Monday morning.



Mark Campbell

The Broadway Fountain in downtown Madison, still draped with holiday lights from the Christmas season, was surrounded by and layered with deep snow shortly before day-break Monday.

ed motorists and support other types of winter emergencies. Initial plans are for the guard to work in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana State Police and Emergency Operations Center and remain activated through Tuesday.

Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear, who declared a state of emergency on Saturday, urged as many Kentuckians as possible to stay off roadways to give transportation and utility workers the best opportunity to clear roads and restore power before extremely cold tempera-

tures arrive Tuesday. “The good news is we are not aware of any major injuries thus far. We also haven’t had any reports that we’ve lost anybody right now. And for a state that’s been through tornadoes, flooding, polar plunges and so much more, we were ready for



Bob Demaree

Anthony Miller, of Madison, shovels snow on Third Street during a break in Sunday’s winter storm.



Bob Demaree

Weather conditions on Sunday afternoon didn’t keep a couple of dogs and their walkers from a stroll near Johnson Lake Park on Madison’s hilltop.

this. So, thanks to everyone out there doing their part — like our media and meteorologists and a lot of others. We had a lot

of prep time, but there is still a lot of work to do. And the best thing people can do is stay home, stay safe.”

GRANT

FROM PAGE A1

Because of the BLF’s focus on mental health in 2024, “we felt Bethany Legacy Foundation was a really great partner in this because of their connections they made with their mental health push,” Wyne said. “They were just a really invaluable resource for this new position.”

Wyne noted Jefferson County has been labeled a “mental health desert” but that there are valuable resources available in the county and it will be the task of the navigator to pull together information on all those resources. “It’s just bringing awareness, and being able to connect our community members to their appropriate resource they’re looking for and then bringing that communication factor between the resources themselves so we’re not having multiple agencies start up and try to duplicate services.”

She noted there are support groups available but often it’s a matter of knowing where and when those groups meet. “There’s a lot of small faith based organizations in our community that handle a lot our substance use support groups,” she said, but occasionally times and dates change, and it will help to have someone

“to be building connections with all those agencies” to keep track of those changes.

“We’re hoping together that everyone will get to the point that they’re pointing at this Behavioral Health Navigator and the health department as a point of reference and contact for that one specific thing when it comes to mental health to able to point people in the right direction so that it’s so common place,” said Wyne.

The navigator will serve as a support person for those who need help. “It’s hard for people to reach out and ask for help,” said Wyne, noting the navigator will provide “that extra level of support and guidance. When you’re trying to find resources on your own, it can be really difficult” in just getting a timely appointment or knowing the best suited resource. “It can be overwhelming and a little daunting, and we think that instead of directing people to those agencies if we can connect them, then there’s more of the human aspect to it” in making certain they get the help they need.

Ideally, Wyne said the navigator will have a background in social work, psychology and public health,” and be someone familiar with Jefferson County “that has that need and desire to help in their own community. I think somebody like that would really thrive in this position.”

The position is funded by BLF through 2027, and begins once a person is hired for the job. Initially, the navigator will make connections to pull together resources. “If you don’t have the resources, you can’t advise people properly, you can’t send them to the right spot. So, the first goal will be making those connections and reach out to the sources, and the agencies that provide those resources in our county,” said Wyne. “Once they have a good grasp on the things that are available, the opportunity for substance use support or for different mental health supports” in directing those who need help to the right resource.

A determination on how the navigator position will be funded after 2027 will be made after there’s time to see “how it does and thrives” once the position is implemented, and whether anything should be done differently. Once that is determined there will be steps taken to seek funding needed to continue the position.

Wyne said she doesn’t know of any other counties that have a Behavioral Health Navigator. “I can see if this position really gets into a place that it is helping the community, I can see that other people are looking at it. If it excels in Jefferson County, I can see it being used as a model.”

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RECORD

FROM PAGE A2

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SENTENCINGS
January 2, 2025

Garcia Juan Vielman, 20, Madison, for Operating a Vehicle Without a License, a Class C misdemeanor. Sentenced to zero days jail plus \$189.50 in court costs.

January 3, 2025

Ashley M. Gullion, 28, Hanover, for Theft, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail, all suspended to supervised probation consecutive

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David Campbell

Madison's Savannah Resendiz-Mack (top) holds Floyd Central's Constance Phelps during their championship match at 170 pounds during the IHSAA Girls Wrestling Sectional at Floyd Central on Friday.



David Campbell

Madison's Isabella Zuckschwerdt (right) battles with Switzerland County's Miley Stroud during their match at 145 pounds during the IHSAA Girls Wrestling Sectional at Floyd Central on Friday.



David Campbell

Switzerland County's Klayre Redwine (top) holds down Jennings County's Eliza Leslie during their match at 130 pounds at the IHSAA Girls Wrestling Sectional on Friday.

4 locals win in 1st IHSAA girls wrestling sectional

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Four girls from Madison and Switzerland County high schools made history by winning sectional titles in the first-ever IHSAA Girls Wrestling Sectional Championship contested at Floyd Central on Friday.

Girls wrestling has been around for several years, with girls competing on boys teams in the IHSAA tournament and in a girls division, separate from the IHSAA. But this year marked the first time the IHSAA sanctioned a stand-alone girls state tournament.

Isabella Zuckschwerdt, Maylie Skinner and Savannah Resendiz-Mack all won titles in their respective weight classes with Switzerland County's Klaire Redwine also claiming a sectional championship.

Four other Madison Cubs and two Switzerland County Pacers also qualified for the regional in Mooresville this week with top-four finishes.

Redwine (17-1) rolled to the win at 130 pounds. The junior received three byes into the semifinals



David Campbell

Madison's Maylie Skinner (right) holds down Jeffersonville's Danielle Hill during her win at 155 pounds in the IHSAA Girls Wrestling Sectional at Floyd Central on Friday.

where she pinned Jennings County's Eliza Leslie in 1:52. She then dispatched Jeffersonville's Scarlett McRae in 37 seconds.

Zuckschwerdt (15-9) claimed the title at 145 pounds. The freshman picked up a forfeit in the

quarterfinals then posted an 11-5 win over Switzerland County's Miley Stroud in the semifinals. She then battled Jennings County's Katherine Brunner nearly the distance before scoring the fall in 5:24.

Skinner (16-0) remained undefeated on the season with a dominate performance at 155 pounds. The junior received byes until the semifinals where she pinned Jeffersonville's Danielle Hill in 46 seconds. In the finals, she claimed a 16-0 technical fall in 2:32 over Jennings County's Janice Placido.

Resendiz-Mack (12-8) won the title at 170 pounds. Getting a bye until the semifinals, she posted a pin in 1:20 over Jennings County's Gabriella Hernandez and then pinned Floyd Central's Constance Phelps in 1:34 in the championship.

Madison's Maya Bullock, Angelina Yantz and Brooklyn Neece each reached the finals but lost to finish as tourney runners-up.

Bullock (10-7) pinned Henryville's Karly Richardson in 1:40 in her first match at 105 pounds but then lost 7-1 to Floyd Central's Scarlett Rudnick in the championship.

Yantz (12-8) gutted out a pin in 4:58 over Floyd Central's Izzy Stewart at 115 pounds before falling by pin in 2:36 to Jennings

County's Sasha Hicks.

Neece (15-3) got a forfeit win to open the 235-pound class and then pinned Corydon's Ellen Ashabraner in 48 seconds in the semifinals. She was then pinned by Jennings County's Bresa Coan in 21 seconds in the finals.

Madison's Jolene Kennett (6-11) placed third at 190 pounds, Switzerland County's Miley Stroud (8-10) placed third at 145 pounds and Switzerland's Payton Stow (5-13) placed fourth at 110 pounds as all three earned berths to the regional.

Switzerland County's Maleah Wolf (9-6) ended up fifth at 170 pounds.

Jennings County won the team championship with 257 points with Jeffersonville second with 172 and Madison third with 145.5. Switzerland finished sixth with 57 points.

The IHSAA Regional will be held at Mooresville on Friday beginning at 11 a.m. The top four finishers in each weight class will advance to the state finals in Indianapolis on Friday, Jan. 17.

HS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Lady Cubs dominate South Ripley 62-41

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison jumped on South Ripley from the start and cruised to a 62-41 win in girls basketball Friday at home.

The Cubs led 13-9 after the first quarter and 23-13 at halftime before pulling away in the second half.

Juliana Davis scored 16 points and had six rebounds and five assists to lead Madison while Kenzie Smith had a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds. Addison Roark had 13 points and Keragan Spry scored nine for the Cubs.

Madison, now 11-2 on the season, was to host Brownstown on Tuesday and travel to Charlestown on Thursday.

HILLTOPPERS 3RD AT EDINBURGH

Shawe's girls shut out Edinburg in the first quarter and rolled to a 51-29 win in the third place game of the Edinburg Holiday Classic on Friday.

The Hilltoppers led 15-0 after the first quarter and 23-17 at the half before a 21-6 third-quarter run

sealed the win.

Allison Knoebel had 21 points, 10 rebounds and six assists to lead Shawe while Audrey Barron had 12 points, 10 rebounds and five steals and Ava Turner had 12 points, seven rebounds and five steals.

Shawe opened the tournament on Thursday with a 62-25 win over Columbus HomeSchool before falling 49-39 to Class 2A No. 4 Austin in the semifinals.

Shawe, now 11-4 on the season, heads to Eastern (Pekin) on Tuesday and to Rock Creek on Thursday.

LADY PACERS FALL TO BATESVILLE

Switzerland County dropped a 58-37 loss at Batesville in girls basketball on Friday.

Addie Kelso had 12 points and Bri Stow scored 10 for the Pacers.

Switzerland, now 4-11 on the season, faces Lawrenceburg in the semifinals of the Rivertown Classic at South Dearborn on Wednesday. The Pacers will then play either Rising Sun or South Dearborn on Friday.

CARROLL GIRLS BEAT BOONE

Carroll County scored a 47-34 win at Boone County in girls basketball on Friday.

Elle Spencer scored a career-high 29 points and added seven rebounds to lead Carroll while Josie Dale had 11 points.

Carroll, now 5-6 on the season, was to host Woodford County on Tuesday but that game has been canceled by the snowstorm. Carroll hosts Dayton on Thursday and Sayre on Friday before traveling to Harrison County on Saturday.

TRIMBLE SPLITS WITH VALLEY

Trimble County's girls basketball teams suffered a 57-35 loss at home to Valley on Friday.

No stats for the game were available.

Trimble falls to 4-5 on the season and will play Owen County on Tuesday in the opening round of the All "A" Classic Eighth Region Tournament at Owen County weather permitting. The boys All "A" was scheduled to start Monday night but those games were postponed by inclement weather.

LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

TUESDAY, JAN. 7 BASKETBALL

Shawe girls at Eastern (Pekin), 6:30 p.m.
Carroll Co. boys at Boone Co., (ppd.)

Carroll Co. girls host Woodford Co., (ppd.)
Madison girls host Brownstown, 7:30 p.m.
Southwestern boys at Providence, 7:30 p.m.

Trimble Co. girls vs. Owen Co., All "A" Classic 8th Region Tournament at Owen Co., 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING

Madison hosts Salem, 6 p.m.
Southwestern hosts Shawe, Switzerland Co., 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8 BASKETBALL

Switzerland Co. girls vs. Lawrenceburg, Rivertown Classic, 6 p.m.

Hanover women hosts Transylvania, 7 p.m.
Hanover men at Transylvania, 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING

Switzerland Co. host Providence, South Ripley, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, JAN. 9 BASKETBALL

Switzerland Co. boys vs. Lawrenceburg, Rivertown Classic, 6 p.m.

Shawe girls at Rock Creek, 7 p.m.

Madison girls at Charlestown, 7:30 p.m.

Southwestern girls host Austin, 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING

Southwestern hosts Switzerland Co., 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 10 BASKETBALL

Switzerland Co. girls, Rivertown Classic, TBA

Carroll Co. girls host Sayre, 6:30 p.m.

Madison boys host Scottsburg, 7:30 p.m.

Shawe boys host Oldenburg, 7:30 p.m.

Southwestern boys at Rock Creek, 7:30 p.m.

Trimble Co. boys at Portland Christian, 7:30 p.m.

WRESTLING

Madison, Switzerland Co. girls, IHSAA Regionals at Mooresville, 11 a.m.

Slow start costs Rebels in loss at Corydon

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Southwestern got off to a rough start at Corydon and never recovered, falling 51-30 on the road in boys basketball Saturday.

The Rebels trailed 14-5 after the first quarter and 26-16 at halftime. Corydon then outscored Southwestern 25-14 in the second half to pull away.

Southwestern shot just 29% (13-for-45) from the floor and had no player reach double-digits in scoring. Jeter Chatham led the Rebels with nine points and Caleb Goode scored seven.

Southwestern, now 7-3 on the season, travels to Rock Creek on Friday and to Class 2A No. 6 Providence on Saturday.

TRIMBLE BEATS VALLEY

Trimble County's boys cored a

41-40 win over Valley at home on Friday.

Ethan Keller led the Raiders with 16 points while Dylan Penick and Hayden Webster scored 8 each and Briar Rucker had 6 points and nine rebounds.

Trimble's boys improve to 4-9 on the season and will compete in the All "A" Classic Eighth Region Tournament at Owen County this week. The Raiders were scheduled to play Walton-Verona on Monday but that game has now been postponed due to the weather with a make-up date to be decided.

SHAWE FALLS TO SOUTH DECATUR

Shawe suffered a 57-52 loss in overtime at South Decatur on

Saturday in boys basketball.

No stats from the game were available.

Shawe, now 4-6 on the season, hosts Oldenburg on Friday and Assumption Academy on Saturday.

PACERS FALL TO PROVIDENCE

Switzerland County suffered a 52-32 loss at home to Class 2A No. 6 Providence on Saturday in boys basketball.

No stats from the game were available.

Switzerland, now 5-4 on the season, plays Lawrenceburg in the semifinals of the Rivertown Classic at South Dearborn on Thursday. The Pacers will then play either Rising Sun or South Dearborn on Saturday.

Irsay to retain GM Ballard and coach Steichen

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay insists he's as frustrated as the team's fans are about a fourth consecutive playoff absence.

He's just not ready to start over.

About four hours after the Colts completed their season with a 26-23 overtime victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars, Irsay ended any speculation about possible offseason changes by announcing in a letter to fans that longtime general manager Chris Ballard and second-year coach Shane

Steichen would return next season.

"I've been evaluating our entire operation, and I believe in Chris Ballard and Shane Steichen and our collective ability to make the improvements needed to take us to the next level in 2025," the 65-year-old owner wrote. "I know fans who want an immediate change in leadership will be disappointed. That means we all have a lot to prove, so we'll get back to work and keep doing what we can to earn your support and make you proud to be a Colts fan."

The decision stops, for
SEE COLTS/PAGE B8

Brea’s 7 threes lift No. 10 Kentucky over No. 6 Florida 106-100

BY STEVE MCCLAIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Koby Brea scored 23 points and hit seven 3-pointers off the bench to lead No. 10 Kentucky over No. 6 Florida 106-100 on Saturday, handing the Gators their first loss of the season.

The Gators (13-1, 0-1 Southeastern Conference) had cut an 80-69 Kentucky lead to 89-87 on Walter Clayton Jr.’s free throws with 4:40 remaining, but Lamont Butler hit a 3 as the shot clock wound down and added two free throws to help the Wildcats (12-2, 1-0) hang on.

Clayton scored 33 points, 12 of those in Florida’s 18-9 run before Butler’s 3 with 3:42 left. Alijah Martin scored 20 of his 26 points in the second half to rally Florida after Kentucky took a 52-42 halftime lead.

Butler finished with 19 points and eight assists as Kentucky placed six players in double digits.

TAKEAWAYS

Florida: The Gators used offensive rebounding to take an early lead in the game and then battle their way back in the second half. They had 15 offensive rebounds leading to 31 second chance points.

Kentucky: In the first 10 minutes, Kentucky was outrebounded 12-2 and trailed 20-11. Over the rest of the first half, Kentucky held a 16-9 rebounding edge and a 10-point half-time lead.

KEY MOMENT

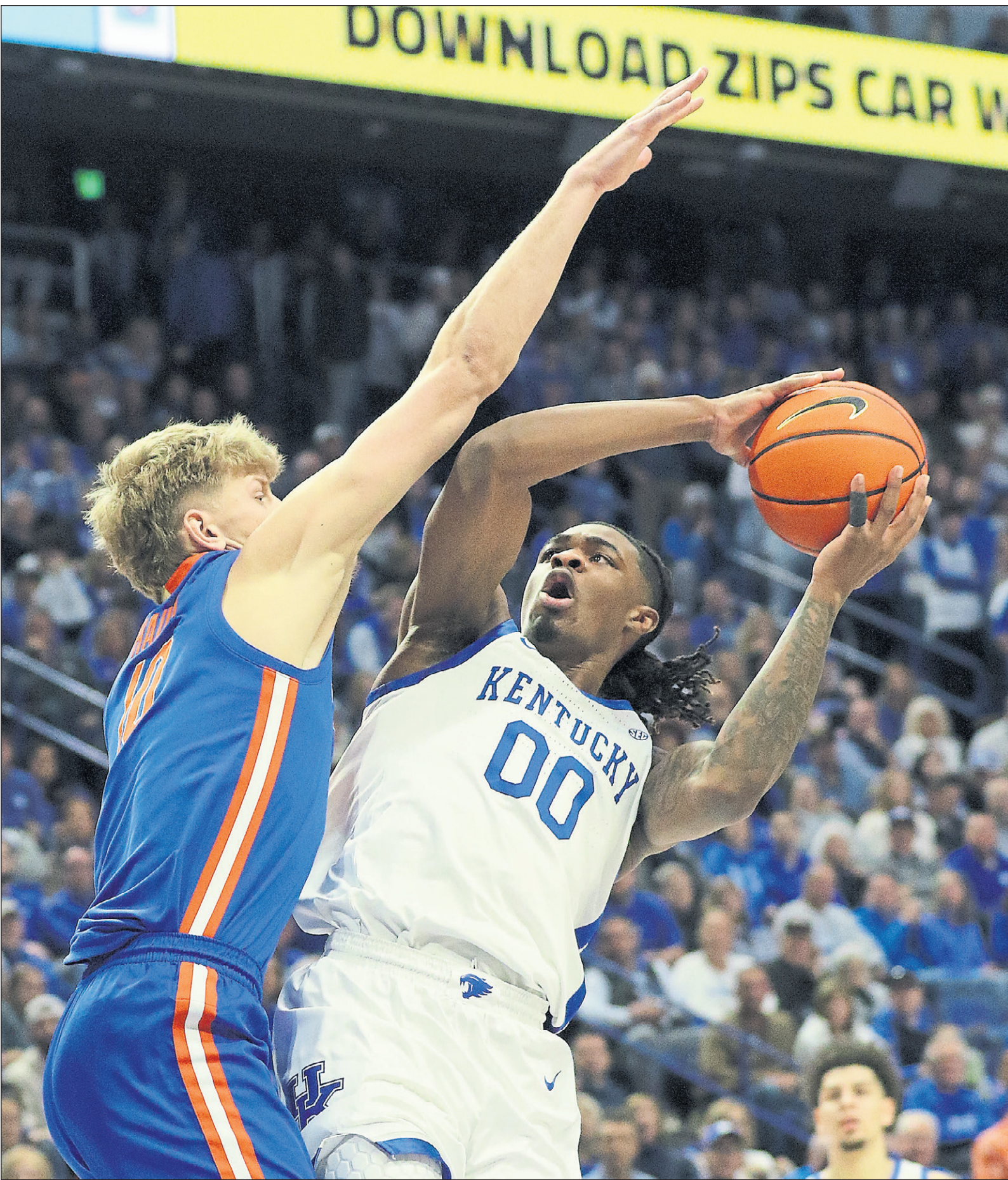
Florida had cut the Kentucky lead to one at 70-69 when coach Todd Golden took a 30-second timeout. The Wildcats scored the next 10 points.

KEY STAT

Florida had held its previous four opponents to 20% shooting on 3-pointers, giving up about five 3s per game. Kentucky shot 48% and made 14 3s.

UP NEXT

Both teams play Tuesday night: Florida hosts top-ranked Tennessee while Kentucky goes on the road to Georgia (**TV:** Live on SEC at 7 p.m.).



Otega Oweh drives to the basket Saturday during Kentucky’s SEC opener against Florida at Rupp Arena in Lexington.

DARRELL BIRD/The Cats’ Pause

Louisville scores rare win over Virginia in 70-50 rout

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Reyne Smith and Aboubacar Traore scored 15 points apiece and first-year coach Pat Kelsey led Louisville to a rare victory over Virginia, 70-50 on Saturday.

The Cardinals (10-5, 3-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) won for the first time in 10 all-time games at John Paul Jones Arena and notched their first road win over the Cavaliers (8-6, 1-2

since February of 1990. Virginia had won 18 of the previous 19 matchups and leads the all-time series 24-6.

Kelsey was hired after head-coaching stops at Winthrop (2012-21) and Charlotte (2021-24). Ron Sanchez was named interim coach at Virginia after three-time national coach of the year Tony Bennett retired in October.

Smith made 5 of 10 from 3-point range. Traore came off the bench to sink 6 of 10 shots and grab eight rebounds as Louisville controlled the boards 42-25. J’Vonne Hadley had 11 points and Chucky Hepburn scored 10.

Andrew Rohde scored 16 to lead Virginia. Isaac McKneely had 13 points and Elijah Saunders scored 12.

McKneely and Rohde both scored eight in the first half and Rohde’s layup with 4:20 left tied the game at 20. Traore dunked and hit a 3-pointer as Louisville outscored the Cavaliers 12-7 from there to take a 32-27 lead into halftime. Traore had nine points to help the Cardinals’ reserves outscore their counterparts 17-0 before the break and 34-2 on the night.

Louisville scored the first four points of the second half before Virginia went on a 7-0 run to get within two. Smith and Rohde answered with 3-pointers and Traore had back-to-back baskets to cap a 10-2 run and the Cardinals cruised.

Louisville will host Clemson on Tuesday (**TV:** Live on ESPNU at 7 p.m.). Virginia travels to play California on Wednesday.

Ballo’s 25/13 lets Indiana hold off Penn State

PHILADELPHIA — Oumar Ballo scored 25 points and grabbed 13 rebounds as Indiana held off a late rally to beat Penn State 77-71 in a game played at The Palestra in Philadelphia on Sunday.

The game was the fifth Big Ten Conference contest Penn State has held at “The Cathedral of College Basketball” and the

Nittany Lions lost for the second time.

Nick Kern Jr. hit two free throws in the final minute to tie the game at 29-29 going into intermission, but the Hoosiers got two 3-pointers and a layup from Mackenzie Mgbako to open the second half and Myles Rice and Ballo each converted layups to push the lead to 41-29

three minutes in. Trey Gallo-way’s 3-pointer midway through the half made it 61-45 before the Nittany Lions went on an 8-1 run to cut the deficit to 62-53.

Penn State missed its first 13 shots from behind the 3-point arc before Freddie Dilione V and Kern hit back-to-back 3s to get within four, 65-61 with 5:50 left. Ballo responded by pow-

ering to the basket for a layup at the rim and added the free throw to push the lead back to seven points. Zach Hicks hit a third-straight 3 to get the Nittany Lions within 73-71 with 1:43 left but Mgbako and Rice each hit two free throws to set the final margin. Ace Baldwin missed three 3-point attempts in the final 17 seconds and Dilione

missed a fourth at the buzzer.

Mgbako finished with 20 points and Goode added another 12 for Indiana (12-3, 3-1).

Kern finished with 21 points for Penn State (12-3, 2-2). Baldwin added 12 and Dilione 11.

Penn State plays at No. 22 Illinois Wednesday and Indiana plays host to USC Wednesday (**TV:** Live on BTN at 7 p.m.).

Smith leads No. 20 Purdue to rout of Northwestern

BY MARK AMBROGI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEST LAFAYETTE — Braden Smith had 22 points and seven assists to lead No. 20 Purdue to a 79-61 rout of Northwestern on Sunday.

Smith, who scored 17 of his points in the first half, hit 8 of 16 shots for the Boilermakers (11-4, 3-1 Big Ten). Trey Kaufman-Renn and C.J. Cox each scored 12 points for Purdue.

Angelo Ciaravino led the Wildcats (10-5, 1-3) with 19 points on 8-of-14 shooting. Brooks Barnhizer, who graduated from nearby Lafayette Jefferson High School, and Jalen Leach each had 11 points. Barnhizer, who was averaging 20.1 points entering the game, struggled from the field, making 4 of 15 shots.

The Boilermakers led by as many as 29 points at 63-34 with 11:21 left in the second half. They scored the first seven points and never trailed.

The Boilermakers shot 59% in the first half while holding Northwestern to 25%.

TAKEAWAYS

Northwestern: Ciaravino was a bright spot as he was averaging just 3.3 points prior to the game. Nick Martinelli, who averaged 20.1 points entering the game, had 10 points on 2-of-8 shooting.

Purdue: The Boilermakers continue to dominate at home, winning a 25th consecutive home game. Purdue has now won three in a row after a stretch where it lost three of four games.

KEY MOMENT

Myles Colvin sank a 3-pointer to give Purdue a 25-14 lead to fire up the crowd. Colvin, who had been mired in a shooting slump, was 1 of 16 from 3-point range in the previous five games. Colvin added a second 3-pointer in the second half, finishing with seven points.

KEY STAT

Purdue held the Wildcats to 38% from the field, including 28% from 3-point range. In contrast, Purdue shot 51% from the field and 40% from 3-point range.

UP NEXT

Northwestern plays host to Michigan State on Jan. 12 while Purdue is at Rutgers on Thursday (**TV:** Live on FS1 at 6 p.m.).

Haliburton’s 27 leads Pacers to 126-108 win over Suns

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Tyrese Haliburton scored 27 points and Myles Turner added 20 points, six rebounds and three blocks, leading the Indiana Pacers past the Phoenix Suns 126-108 on Saturday.

Haliburton also had eight assists and, for the second straight game, did not commit a turnover. Indiana has won three of its last four to even its overall record at 18-18. The Pacers also swept the two-game season series from Phoenix.

Kevin Durant led the Suns with 25 points, seven rebounds and seven assists, while Devin Booker had 20 points in the same venue

he scored an arena-record 62 in his last trip to Gainbridge Fieldhouse in January 2024. Booker also had nine rebounds and nine assists.

The Pacers swung the game by breaking a 56-all halftime tie with the first five points of the second half and used a pivotal 40-point third quarter — their third-best quarter all season — to seize control. Indiana never trailed in the second half.

TAKEAWAYS

Suns: Phoenix continues to create consternation over what’s wrong. Booker, Durant and Bradley Beal were supposed to form the nucleus of a title contender. Instead, they’ve lost seven of

eight and 10 of 13, forcing coach Mike Budenholzer to continue waiting for career win No. 500.

Pacers: Indiana has finally started playing the way it envisioned over these past 11 games. Haliburton is in sync, the defense has improved and the Pacers have won eight times during that span to reach .500.

KEY MOMENT

Indiana capped its big third quarter with a late 12-5 run that extended an eight-point lead to 96-82. Phoenix played catch-up the rest of the game.

KEY STATS

Indiana had 35 assists on 46 baskets and only six turnovers while outrebounding the Suns 47-37.

Burrow, Bengals win out only to be denied by Broncos

Cincy beat Steelers but Denver routs Chiefs

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
PITTSBURGH — Joe Burrow and the Cincinnati Bengals did their part right up to the end Saturday night — beating AFC North rival Pittsburgh 19-17 on the road to keep their slim playoff hopes alive — but a 38-0 blowout loss by the Kansas City Chief allowed the Denver Broncos to claim the final play-off spot while the Chiefs rested Patrick Mahomes and several starters on Sunday.

The Denver denied Cincinnati a spot in the playoffs despite winning five straight games to close out the regular season.

In the end, the Bengals certainly looked playoff-worthy — everywhere but the standings — as Cincinnati finished 9-8 for third in the AFC North and never recovering from an 0-3 start and a 4-8 record just before that late season blitz.

“It’s not ideal,” Burrow said after throwing for 277 yards and a touchdown Saturday. “But we put ourselves in this position.”

In multiple ways. The Bengals were floundering at 4-8 a month ago, with seven of the losses coming by eight points or less. They responded by ripping off the five straight to wrap up the regular season, including the win over the reeling Steelers.

For the Bengals to grab the final playoff spot in the AFC, they needed the Mahomes-less Chiefs to beat Denver and the New York Jets to summon the energy at the end of a chaotic season to topple the Miami Dolphins. The Jets and aging quarterback Aaron Rodgers did their part by defeating Miami 32-20 but the Chiefs put up no fight against the Broncos.

Burrow noted that it would be “weird” rooting for the Chiefs — one of their biggest rivals in recent playoff runs — but it beat having nothing to root for at all, which was certainly where Cincinnati was headed a month ago.

While Burrow threw an interception and had his NFL-record streak of consecutive games

with at least 250 yards passing and three touchdowns come to an end, he did enough to send the Steelers (10-7) reeling into the playoffs with a four-game losing streak.

Pittsburgh will be the sixth seed and visit AFC North rival Baltimore next weekend.

“We’re in a single-elimination tournament now, so we better turn our attention toward playing good football and better than we have particularly in recent weeks,” Pittsburgh coach Mike Tomlin said.

If Tomlin wants a lesson on how to get it together under challenging circumstances, Cincinnati’s play over the last month has provided it.

The Bengals’ late run began after a 44-38 loss to the Steelers on Dec. 1 dropped them to 4-8. They haven’t lost since, with Burrow playing at an MVP level and their once porous defense playing its best football of the season.

Burrow completed 37 of 46 passes, including a 12-yard touchdown to Ja’Marr Chase on Cincinnati’s first possession that gave the Bengals a lead they never gave up. Chase finished with 10 receptions for 96 yards to put the NFL’s “Triple Crown” for receivers (catches, yards and touchdowns) within reach.

Cincinnati held reeling Pittsburgh (10-7) to 193 yards — more than 300 less than the 520 the Steelers rolled up in the first meeting — and turned aside a late rally. Trey Hendrickson sacked Russell Wilson 3 1/2 times to boost his season total to an NFL-leading 17 1/2 on a night the Bengals never let the play-off-bound Steelers get on track.

“Obviously, our season hasn’t gone the way we wanted, but we like how we closed out to get over .500 and give ourselves a chance,” Cincinnati cornerback Mike Hilton said.

Wilson passed for 148 yards and a touchdown, both the score and the vast majority of the yards coming during the fourth quarter when the Steel-



Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow (9) throws a pass during the first half of an NFL football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers on Saturday Jan. 4, in Pittsburgh.

ers were desperately playing catchup. Wilson hit Pat Freiermuth for a 19-yard touchdown pass and Chris Boswell hit a 54-yard field goal to get Pittsburgh within two.

The Steelers got the ball back just after the 2-minute warning but never made it to Cincinnati territory. Wilson threw incom-

plete to Freiermuth on fourth down and Burrow came out for a kneeldown that extended the Bengals’ season to the final day but not to the playoffs.

Burrow and his teammates were hopeful of going back to work on Monday to prepare for a trip to Buffalo but instead they will be cleaning out their lock-

ers and turning their attention to what could be an eventful offseason of uncertainty. Burrow liked the Bengals chances if all the pieces had only fallen into place.

“I know that if we get in, we can make some noise with the players and coaches that we have in this building,” he had said.

Amoore, Hassett power No. 16 Kentucky women past Vandy

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Georgia Amoore totaled 24 points and nine assists, Amelia Hassett hit six 3-pointers and scored 20 and No. 16 Kentucky upped its win streak to six by beating Vanderbilt 96-78 on Sunday, ending the Commodores’ second seven-game win streak of the season.

The Wildcats (13-1, 2-0 Southeastern Conference), who were coming off a school-record 18 3-pointers in a 91-69 victory over Mississippi State on Thursday, buried six more in a 31-point first quarter to build a 14-point advantage. The Commodores (14-2, 1-1) chipped

a point off of their deficit in the second quarter and trailed 51-38 at halftime.

The Commodores closed within 54-49 in the third quarter, but Teoni Key answered with a layup and her 3-pointer capped a 9-0 run to push the lead back to 14 and the Wildcats cruised.

Amoore made 8 of 18 shots with three 3-pointers for Kentucky. Hassett sank 6 of 10 from distance, adding nine rebounds and five assists. Clara Strack had 17 points and matched her career high with 15 rebounds for her seventh double-double of the season. Dazia Lawrence hit three 3-pointers and scored 17. Key pitched in

with 14 points and seven rebounds as the starters accounted for all but four points.

Mikayla Blakes, who was coming off a school-record 36-point effort by a freshman in a 108-82 win over Georgia in the conference opener, again led Vanderbilt with 24 points. Sophomore Khamil Pierre totaled 19 points and 11 rebounds for her 11th double-double this season. She has scored in double figures in 18 straight games dating to last season. Iyana Moore scored 17.

Kentucky travels to play Florida on Thursday. Vanderbilt travels to play No. 25 Mississippi on Thursday.

Betts dominates as No. 1 UCLA women cruise past IU

BY PHILLIP B. WILSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS
BLOOMINGTON — Lauren Betts had 25 points and 12 rebounds and No. 1 UCLA shut out Indiana for more than eight minutes in the first half of a 73-62 victory on Saturday in its first visit as a Big Ten Conference member.

The Bruins (15-0, 4-0) were never seriously threatened after the Hoosiers (10-4, 2-1) missed five shots and committed seven turnovers during an 8-minute, 15-second drought that began late in the first quarter.

Betts made 12 of 16 shots for her ninth double-double of the season. She ensured a fast start by scoring three of the Bruins’ first four bas-

kets in a game in which UCLA led by as many as 16 points.

Kiki Rice had 12 points, seven assists and seven rebounds for the Bruins. Gabriella Jaquez added 11 points.

Yarden Garzon led the Hoosiers with 19 points. Chloe Moore-McNeil added 12.

TAKEAWAYS
UCLA: The Bruins have won all but one game by double digits, and this was an impressive road performance against a top-tier Big Ten team just two years removed from a conference title.

Indiana: The Hoosiers were pesky for one quarter before falling apart. This wasn’t as bad as a 30-point home loss to

North Carolina on Nov. 25, but losing at home by double digits is still sobering for a proud program.

KEY MOMENT
Jaquez converted a steal into a 3-point play to start the second quarter after Indiana had closed to within 18-16 at the end of the first quarter. The basket started a 13-0 run.

KEY STAT
The Hoosiers’ first point in the second quarter came on a free throw with 2:56 remaining. They scored only five in the quarter.

UP NEXT
The Bruins visit Purdue on Tuesday. The Hoosiers visit Northwestern on Wednesday.

HANOVER ROUNDUP

Panther women open 2025 with rout of Bluffton

BY THE COURIER STAFF
Hanover College women’s basketball blew open a close game and rolled to a 61-38 win at Bluffton on Saturday in the Panthers’ first game of the new year.

Hanover led only 17-16 after the first quarter but held the Beavers under 10 points in each of the next three to claim the easy win.

Grace Bezold had a double-double of 13 points

and 12 rebounds to go with four assists to lead Hanover. Kaitlyn Lorenzi had 13 points and nine rebounds and Sammy Berman had 10 points.

Hanover, now 10-2 overall and 4-1 in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, hosts defending national champion Transylvania (7-7, 4-1 HCAC) on Wednesday in a first-place battle. The Panthers then host Earlham on Saturday.

PANTHER MEN FALL AT BLUFFTON
Hanover men’s basketball fell to .500 with a 77-69 loss at Bluffton on Saturday — the Panthers’ fourth-straight setback.

Hanover trailed 35-33 at halftime and stayed within striking distance but could never get over the hump.

Hanover, now 6-6 overall and 2-3 HCAC, travels to Transylvania on Wednesday and hosts Earlham on Saturday.

COURIER AREA SPORTS SHORTS

BY THE COURIER STAFF
• Shawe’s
Audrey Barron and Matthew Vaughn and Southwestern’s Natalee Crawford have all been named Ohio River Valley Conference players of the week.

Barron earned the award in girls basketball after scoring 42 points with 17 rebounds, 11 steals and eight assists in two games.

Vaughn won the award in boys swimming with three impressive

performances in two meets.

Crawford won the award in girls swimming after setting the school record in the 100-yard backstroke.

• Carroll County High School will begin offering digital tickets for athletic events beginning this month.

Fans will have the option to use Eventlink for digital ticketing at all CCHS athletic events. This only applies to the high school athletic

events. Tickets will be available at the gate with a credit/debit card and cash will also be accepted at the gate.

Admission prices were raised to \$6 for adults and \$3 for students to offset the costs associated with digital ticketing. Students will still get in free if they wear Carroll County school colors of black and yellow.

Tickets can be purchased through the Eventlink app or website.

LOCAL LEAGUES

HANOVER PARKS DEPARTMENT SATURDAY, JAN. 4 GIRLS BASKETBALL ‘A’ Division Premier Lawns & Landscapes Purple Cheetahs 10, Taunya’s Creative Cuts Pink Flamingos 2 — Malli Tingle with 8 points for the Cheetahs; Arianna	Haycraft 2 for the Pink Flamingos. ‘B’ Division Jennings County Panthers 50, Taunya’s Creative Cuts Red Thunder 2 — Felicity Stock 24 points for the Panthers; Nora McQueary and Elena Taylor 2 each for the Red Thunder. Jennings County Panthers 36, Wi Salon	Suites Pink Dragons 2 — Felicity Stock 12 points for the Panthers; Abby Schaefer 2 for the Pink Dragons. ‘C’ Division Jendy’s Pizzeria Hoosiers 22, Pope John Irish 4 — Briley Adams had 8 for the Hoosiers; Morgan Ralston and Harper Goddard 2 each for the Irish.
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Stiga scores on OT breakaway to give US 2nd straight world junior title

OTTAWA, Ontario — Teddy Stiga scored on a breakaway at 8:04 of 3-on-3 overtime to give the United States a 4-3 victory over Finland on Sunday night in the world junior hockey championship game.

The Boston College forward beat goalie Petteri Rimpinen through the leg pads to end it.

The Americans avenged a 4-3 overtime loss to Finland in group play, overcoming a two-goal deficit in the second period to win their second straight title and seventh overall.

Boston University teammates Brandon Svoboda and Cole Hutson scored late in the second period to tie it. Svoboda cut it to 3-2 with 2:22 left on a deflected shot, and Hutson fired a wrist shot from the slot past Rimpinen with 29 seconds remaining.

Michigan State's Trey Augustine made 20 saves.

Tuomas Uronen gave Finland a 2-1 lead with 6:57 left in the first period, 59 seconds after Boston College's James Hagens tied it for the United States. Emil Pieiniemi made it 3-1 at

4:52 of the second.

Jesse Kiiskinen opened the scoring at 7:13.

In the third-place game, Eduard Sale scored in the 14th round of a shootout to give Czechia a 3-2 victory over Sweden on Sunday in the third-place game at the world junior hockey championship. The Czech captain beat Marcus Gidlof on his fifth attempt — and 28th between the teams — with a move to the backhand.

The 2006 tournament will be in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota.

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
SS: OF JEFFERSON COUNTY
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON ESTATE NUMBER: 39C01-24
12-EU-000086

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF VIOLET GAYLE FEWELL, DECEASED.
William Joseph Jenner, JENNER, PATTISON & SHARPE,
508 E. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250; (812) 265-5132

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VIOLET GAYLE FEWELL, DECEASED.

Notice is hereby given that Lane Gayle was, on the 20th day of December, 2024, appointed personal representative of the estate of Violet Gayle Fewell, deceased, who died on the 27th day of November, 2024.

All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Madison, Indiana, this 20th day of December, 2024.

/s/ Tabatha Eblen
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, IN
(seal) hspaxlp

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Patriots ax coach Mayo shortly after 4-13 season

BY KYLE HIGHTOWER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The New England Patriots fired coach Jerod Mayo on Sunday after one season, beginning another reboot for the franchise just a year after it parted with longtime coach Bill Belichick.

Owner Robert Kraft announced the firing in a statement shortly after New England closed its 4-13 season with a 23-16 win over the Buffalo Bills.

“After the game I informed Jerod Mayo that he will not be returning as the head coach of the New England Patriots in 2025. For me, personally, it was one of the hardest decisions I have ever made,” Kraft said. “Unfortunately, the trajectory of our team’s performances throughout the season did not ascend as I had hoped.”

Kraft was set to discuss the move in a news conference on Monday.

A former Patriots linebacker who worked as an assistant under Belichick, Mayo started the season with a strong endorsement from Kraft. But alongside a coaching staff that featured offensive coordinator Alex

Van Pelt and first-time defensive coordinator DeMarcus Covington, he struggled to get the most out of a young roster that included rookie quarterback Drake Maye.

The Patriots opened the season with a win at Cincinnati before losing their next six games. They won two of their next three but then closed the season by losing six of seven, missing the playoffs for the third consecutive season. Belichick was 4-13 in his final season in 2023 to cap a 24-year run in New England that included six Super Bowl titles.

Mayo played eight seasons with New England and won a Super Bowl during the 2014 season. He took a post-retirement job in corporate America in 2015, then returned to football in 2019 to work with Belichick. He served primarily as the Patriots’ linebackers coach while developing a strong reputation among players.

It made him a rising star in the coaching ranks and he turned down several interviews for head coaching jobs following the 2022 season, instead signing an extension to remain in New England.

A week after letting Bel-

ichick go, the Patriots hired Mayo as the franchise’s first Black head coach. At age 37, he started the season as the NFL’s second-youngest coach behind Seattle’s Mike Macdonald.

From the beginning of his tenure, Mayo tried to establish a culture that differed from Belichick’s often robotic devotion to football — a move that drew praise from players.

Yet, it didn’t translate into victories for a team that was ranked near the bottom of the NFL offensively and defensively and went 3-6 in one-score games.

Kraft could turn to another former Patriots linebacker in Mike Vrabel, the former Tennessee Titans coach who recently interviewed with the New York Jets for their coach-

ing vacancy. Vrabel was a pivotal part of the Patriots’ first three Super Bowl titles during his eight seasons, and he led the Titans to three playoff appearances in six years before he was fired after the 2023 season.

After Sunday’s win and before Mayo’s firing was announced, players praised the job he did this season.

“He’s stayed consistent,” cornerback Jonathan Jones said. “The effort from the guys today showed just how no matter what the situation is, how he can get guys to go out there and fight.”

Veteran quarterback Jacoby Brissett said coming together under a new coaching staff was a challenge for everyone.

“First year for head coach, offensive coordinator, defensive coordinator,

(general manager). People don’t understand all that,” Brissett said. “But good things take time. It’s not like Rome was built in a day. ... The word that people don’t want to use is patience. You’ve got to have patience with this thing.”

Yet Kraft didn’t show patience with his hand-picked coach.

Kraft first noticed Mayo’s confidence shortly after the Patriots drafted him 10th overall out of Tennessee in 2008.

“I remember him immediately coming up to me and saying, ‘Kraft and Mayo, they go together pretty well,’ ” Kraft said during Mayo’s introductory news conference last January. “Sixteen years later, here we are.”

When Mayo initially

returned to Patriots in 2019, Kraft noted how he saw an even more skilled leader who hadn’t lost his ability to relate to players.

That same year, Mayo accompanied Kraft on a trip to Israel and the men grew closer. Kraft then made an internal prediction.

“I knew while observing him in Israel, he was the right person to be the next head coach of the New England Patriots,” Kraft said. “I had that same conviction when I hired Bill Belichick, a decision that many questioned at the time, and told me I was making a major error.”

But those instincts didn’t pay off, and the 83-year-old Kraft will now begin the process again to find a coach who can get the franchise back on track.

Browns move quickly to fire coaches after 3-14 season

BY TOM WITHERS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEREA, Ohio — The Cleveland Browns quickly began trying to fix a brutal, broken 2024 season.

There’s no shortage of items needing repair.

Hours after finishing with a loss at Baltimore in the finale of a season that was expected to carry into the playoffs, coach Kevin Stefanski fired offensive coordinator Ken Dorsey and offensive line coach Andy Dickerson.

Those were the initial moves in what will be another busy winter as Cleveland crawls from the wreckage of the franchise’s 18th double-digit loss season since 1999.

Dorsey and Dickerson both spent just one season with the Browns (3-14), who closed with a six-game losing streak and are now guaranteed to have one of the first three picks in this year’s NFL draft — not what they had in mind after making the playoffs last season.

“Just bottom line, I want to go in a different direction,” Stefanski said Sunday, adding he didn’t expect any other “major” changes on his staff. “We need to improve, as everybody knows, on the offensive side of the ball. That’s what we plan to do.”

Dorsey and Dickerson were informed of the moves in the aftermath of the team’s 35-10 loss in Baltimore on Saturday.

A two-time AP Coach of the Year, Stefanski survived one of the most disappointing seasons in team history along with general manager Andrew Berry, who is scheduled to meet with the media on Monday.

Stefanski’s search for his third offensive coordinator since 2020 is already underway. Tight ends coach Tommy Rees is believed to be one of the internal candidates.

There are several other pressing issues for the Browns, chiefly at starting quarterback and the future of superstar defensive end Myles Garrett, who hinted after Saturday’s game that he could be in line for a contract extension.

“There’ll be something coming,” said Garrett, who has made it clear to owners Dee and Jimmy Haslam that he doesn’t want to be part of any rebuild and recently opened the possibility of asking to be traded.

Garrett, who has two years left on a \$125 million

deal, wants to see the team’s offseason plans — on both sides of the ball.

While Cleveland’s defense underperformed this season, the offense was atrocious.

With Dorsey in charge, the Browns finished last in scoring and only reached at least 20 points in three games. Dorsey, who was fired by the Buffalo Bills last season, had been brought to Cleveland to help structure an offense around quarterback Deshaun Watson’s versatile skillset.

But Watson never got going as he struggled in his return from major shoulder surgery and the Browns went just 1-6 in his starts before he ruptured his Achilles tendon in October. That was followed by Stefanski handing play-calling duties over to Dorsey and the offense showed some life when Jameis Winston took over at quarterback.

However, the spark was short-lived and Winston got benched after throwing eight interceptions in three games. Dorian Thompson-Robinson started twice and Bailey Zappe played against the Ravens — Cleveland’s 40th starting QB since 1999.

Replacing the respected Bill Callahan, who left to coach with his son, Brian, in Tennessee was going to be tough for any coach. The Browns’ running game never got rolling under Dickerson’s direction — it didn’t help running back Nick Chubb was recovering from knee surgery — and Cleveland’s O-line gave up 66 sacks.

Right tackle Jack Conklin said the switch in offensive philosophies was detrimental.

“It was a tall task for anybody to take over,” Conklin said. “I feel bad for Andy having it go this way. Obviously wanted to have success in doing this other offense, but it just didn’t work.”

Left guard Joel Bitonio believes returning to a run-heavy, play-action scheme would be a wise move.

“It’s what Coach Stefanski is most comfortable with,” Bitonio said. “The line was kind of built that way as well. I thought me and Wyatt (Teller) as pullers running some outside zone, That was what I did well in my career, and I probably pulled less than 10 times this year overall. And there were

SEE **BROWNS/PAGE B8**

		Jefferson Switzerland Trimble/ Carroll	TUESDAY EVENING											
			6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11	
3	WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Deal or No Deal	Island (N) (SP)	Irrational (N)		WAV..		
4	WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	FBI "Trusted"	FBI: Int "Touts"	FBI-Wanted		CBS4..		
5	WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Deal or No Deal	Island (N) (SP)	Irrational (N)		News		
6	WISH	12		News (N)		Inside..	ET (N)	WWE NXT (N) (Live)	News (N)		News			
9	WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Extra	Will Trent (SP)	High Pote (N)	The Rookie (SP)		News		
11	WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Will Trent (SP)	High Pote (N)	The Rookie (SP)		News		
15	WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	PBS News (N)		Roots (N) (SP)	Investigates (SP)	Frontline (N)		BBCN..		
19	WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Nightmares (SP)	Doc (N) (P)	FOX19 (N)		FOX19		
32	WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	FBI "Trusted"	FBI: Int "Touts"	FBI-Wanted		News		
34	WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	Conners	Sheldon	BigBa..	WWE NXT (N) (Live)	BigBa..		Sheldon	LastM..		
41	WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Nightmares (SP)	Doc (N) (P)	News (N) (Live)		News		
A&E		28	36	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	
AMC		29	26	(5:30) ***** The Departed ('06) Leonardo DiCaprio.					***** Goodfellas ('90) Robert De Niro.					
COM		45	59	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	DailyS..	
DISC		31	38	Moonshiners		Moonshiners		Moonshiners (N)			Moonshiners		Distiller	
DISN		25	29	Bluey	Big City	Big City	Big City	Place	ZOM..	Kiff	Kiff	Hamst..	Raven	
ESPN		32	44	SportsCenter	Basketball Pittsburgh at Duke (N)				TGL Golf				Sports..	
FREE		18	40	Movie	***** Inside Out ('15)				***** Cinderella ('15) Cate Blanchett.				700Club	
FX		40	28	(5:00) ***** Doctor Strange in the Multi...	***** Captain America: Civil War ('16) Chris Evans.									
HBO		201	17	Movie	***** X-Men: Apocalypse ('16)				Hard (N)		Hard Knocks		Movie	
MAX		270	73	(6:05) ***** Beowulf ('07)	***** Parasite ('19)				(6:15) ***** The Outlaws ('19)					
NEWSNTN		20	20	The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		Dan Abrams		Banfield (N)	Cuomo	
PARMT		35	41	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	***** Kingsman: The Secret Service ('14)				Movie		
PARSHO		221	16	(5:45) ***** The Pledge ('01)	Dexter: Sin				The Agency		***** Black Box Diaries (P)			
TMC		233	74	Movie	***** Mercy ('23)				***** Chef ('14) Jon Favreau.		***** Match ('14)			
TNT		27	43	(4:30) ***** Gemini ...	Tip-Off		NBA Basketball				NBA Basketball			
USA		26	33	Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU	Law-S..	

		Jefferson Switzerland Trimble/ Carroll	WEDNESDAY EVENING											
			6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10	10:30	11	
3	WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Chicago (N)	Chi. Fire (N)	Chicago (N)		WAV..		
4	WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	Price Is (N)	Raid-Cage (SP)	Elsbeth		CBS4..		
5	WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Chicago (N)	Chi. Fire (N)	Chicago (N)		News		
6	WISH	12		News (N)		Inside..	ET (N)	Penn & Teller	Inside the NFL	News (N)		News		
9	WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Extra	Shifting Abbott	Jeopardy! (SP)	What Would		News		
11	WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Shifting Abbott	Jeopardy! (SP)	What Would		News		
15	WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	PBS News (N)		Nature	NOVA	Secrets		BBCN..		
19	WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Special Forces (N) (SP)		FOX19 (N)		FOX19		
32	WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	Price Is (N)	Raid-Cage (SP)	Elsbeth		News		
34	WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	Conners	Sheldon	BigBa..	Penn & Teller	Inside the NFL	BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..		
41	WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Special Forces (N) (SP)		News (N) (Live)		News		
A&E	28	36		Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Ozark Law (P)	Court..	
AMC	29	26		***** Zombieland ('09)				***** World War Z ('13) Brad Pitt.				***** I Am Legend		
COM	45	59		Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	Family..	DailyS..	
DISC	31	38		Expedition		Expedition		Expedition		Expedition		Mystery (N)		Expedi..
DISN	25	29		Bluey	Big City	Big City	Big City	Place	ZOM..	ZOM..	Kiff	Kiff	Hamst..	Raven
ESPN	32	44		SportC..	NBA	NBA Basketball				(6:35) NBA Basketball				
FREE	18	40		(5:00) ***** Frozen II	(6:05) ***** The Lion King ('94)				(6:05) ***** Lion King II: Simba's Pride		700Club			
FX	40	28		(4:00) ***** Bohemia...	***** Whitney Houston: I Wanna Dance With Somebody				***** Whitney Houston: I W...					
HBO	201	17		(6:05) ***** Godzilla x Kong: New Empire				***** Super/ Man: Christop...		(6:50) Hard		***** Furiosa: A M...		
MAX	270	73		(6:10) ***** Immortals ('11)				***** Ghost Dog: Way of the Samurai		(6:55) ***** American Renegades				
NEWSNTN	20	20		The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		Dan Abrams		Banfield (N)		Cuomo
PARMT	35	41		TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	***** Top Gun ('86) Tom Cruise.				***** Major League		
PARSHO	221	16		(4:35) ***** Forrest ...				***** The Aviator ('04) Leonardo DiCaprio.				***** Flight ('12) (P)		
TMC	233	74		***** Confessions of a Dangerous Mind				***** Rules of Engagement				(6:10) ***** Coach Carter		
TNT	27	43		Supernatural		NHL o..		NHL Hockey		NHL Hockey				
USA	26	33		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-SVU		Law-S..

Love expected to start for Notre Dame in Orange Bowl

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Notre Dame running back Jeremiyah Love is expected to start Thursday in the Orange Bowl against sixth-seeded Penn State, enabling the seventh-seeded Fighting Irish and their trademark ground game to operate at — or near — full capacity in the first College Football Playoff semifinal.

Love re-injured his ailing right knee late in the third quarter of Notre Dame's 23-10 victory over second-seeded Georgia in the Sugar Bowl. He went into the medical tent twice before returning to the sideline with a hefty brace protecting the knee.

But when coach Marcus Freeman spoke with reporters Saturday, Love did not make the team's injury report.

"The only injury update from the game is Cooper Flanagan will be out for the remainder of the College Football Playoff with a foot injury," Freeman said, referring to a backup tight end. "We'll

miss Coop and love him, but other than that, everybody else was clean. Pretty clean game in terms of injuries."

That means Love and quarterback Riley Leonard are expected to continue to lead the ground game while backup running backs Jadarian Price and Aneayas Williams provide reinforcements as the Irish (13-1, No. 3 CFP) chase their first national championship game appearance since the end of the 2012 season.

Love did not speak with reporters Saturday and is not scheduled to address the media before facing the Big Ten runner-up Nittany Lions (13-2, No. 5). Price is expected to talk later Saturday.

HOW CRITICAL HAS LOVE BEEN TO NOTRE DAME'S OFFENSE?

He leads the Irish with 1,076 yards and 16 touchdown runs, averages 7.3 yards per carry and set a school record by rushing for scores in 13 consecutive

games. The streak ended against Georgia.

Love also set the tone in Notre Dame's first-round victory over 10th-seeded Indiana when he sprinted 98 yards for the first score. It was the longest TD run in playoff history and came on a day Love when was fighting both the flu and the sore knee he hurt in the team's regular-season finale at Southern California.

But stats and his on-field feats don't provide a complete accounting of Love's impact.

He has hurdled 10 defenders this season, including an attempt against the Hoosiers on which he aggravated the knee injury, and his ability to play well despite injury or illness has given the Irish a toughness that resonates throughout the locker room. And his strength and breakaway ability only make Leonard a more dangerous option on the ground.

The result: Notre Dame needed just 90 yards passing to beat the Southeastern Conference

champion Bulldogs in New Orleans.

So having Love on the field seems like a must if the Irish are to end their national championship drought at 36 years — the longest gap between title-winning seasons since the Irish captured their first in 1924.

But even if Love isn't at full strength, the Irish have other options.

Leonard already holds the single-season school record for TD runs by a quarterback (15) and needs 169 yards rushing to record his first 1,000-yard season. Price also can be both a breakaway threat and a workhorse back and Williams, a freshman, has worked his way into more action by logging half of his 32 carries over the last four games.

Price promises to be ready for whatever is asked of him.

"I always feel like I could do more every game," Price said. "The good thing about our victory is that we have another oppor-

tunity to do it, so we want to do everything we can to have a better performance."

The combination has caused plenty of consternation for Notre Dame opponents during a 12-game winning streak that already has produced the first 13-win season in the school's history.

Now Penn States faces another concern — the health of All-American defensive end Abdul Carter. He left the 31-14 Fiesta Bowl victory over third-seeded Boise State with an apparent left arm injury. Coach James Franklin indicated Saturday that Carter could play, though he may be limited.

"He's doing great, his attitude is great, his mentality has been really good," Franklin said. "Really it's going to come down to how he feels and how much practice he gets. I don't think at this point there's anything stopping him from playing; it's how he is able to play."

COLTS

FROM PAGE B1

now, the speculation fueled by another disappointing finish that a major offseason overhaul could be coming to Indy in 2025. Indy finished 8-9, missing the playoffs for a fourth straight season.

Fans have been clamoring for changes, with defensive coordinator Gus Bradley taking most of the fire early this season. Steichen and Ballard came under increasing pressure following a 31-13 loss at Denver in Week 15 that damaged Indy's postseason hopes and again two weeks later with a 45-33, playoff-eliminating loss at the woeful New York Giants.

Former Colts punter Pat McAfee took to Twitter and ESPN to say he would not be renewing his season tickets while questioning what kind of standards Colts players and coaches are held to.

Some fans lined up behind McAfee's comments, strongly urging Irsay to make changes, and some of them made their preference clear by chanting "Fire Ballard" in the fourth quarter of Sunday's game.

Indy has only reached the postseason twice and has only one playoff win in Ballard's eight-year tenure, going a full decade without an AFC South crown. Only six NFL teams have longer division title droughts. The other three teams in Indy's division have each won at least two titles during that span.

"As we close out this season, I can't tell you how disappointed I am that we failed to win the AFC South and earn a playoff appearance. There's a high standard in this city for our team and anyone who steps on the field wearing the horseshoe," wrote Irsay, who has been battling health issues since a fall in late 2023. "I know you invest your time, energy, and money into the Colts every year.

More than anything, we want to reward you with division titles and playoff runs, and we've fallen short in the most painful ways possible."

Indy's recent history is filled with chapters like the one that played out at Denver, where Pro Bowl running back Jonathan Taylor dropped the ball before crossing the goal line, costing Indy a touchdown. Or the Giants game in which the defense allowed New York's struggling offense to score a season-high 45 points.

Last year, it was Tyler Goodson's dropped pass on fourth-and-1 in Week 18 that sealed the Texans' 23-19 victory — giving Houston the division crown and eliminating the Colts on their home field. Two years earlier, it was another befuddling final game, a 26-13 loss at Jacksonville that cost Indy a playoff berth.

Nevertheless, the Colts will let Ballard and Steichen continue to try and develop 22-year-old quar-

terback Anthony Richardson, the strong-armed No. 4 overall pick in the 2023 draft.

Richardson has shown glimpses of game-changing ability when healthy, though his accuracy remains a major question. He completed a league low 47.7% of his throws this season.

Steichen, who is 17-17 in two seasons, wants to keep working with Richardson.

"Obviously, I love being the head football coach here, love everything about it, love this team," he said. "Obviously, we'll have an evaluation process early on this week, but I'm excited."

Now he — and Ballard — know their fates as well as Irsay's goals.

"The expectation is to win our division and compete for championships," Irsay wrote. "Just being on the doorstep of the playoffs is not the standard I expect, nor what you deserve. We understand that and always accept the challenge."

BROWNS

FROM PAGE B6

games in my career where I pulled eight or 10 times in a game, so it was different, for sure."

NOTES: Stefanski stressed that Watson's health is paramount in whether he's in the competition to start next season. He has two years left on a fully guaranteed \$230 million contract the team recently restructured to give them future salary cap relief. ... Stefanski did not have MRI results on rookie DT Mike Hall Jr., who was carted off the field against the Ravens with a leg injury. ... Stefanski would only say he's "hopeful" that LB Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah will play next season after finishing on injured reserve with a neck injury. ... Bitonio said he'll take some time to "rest the body and mind" before deciding if he'll play a 12th season.

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